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EXPOSÉ OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF
WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

BASED UPON TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC
(Undercover Agent)

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HEARINGS

BEFORE THE

U.S. Congress House
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIRST CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

FEBRUARY 21, 22, AND 23, AND MARCH 13, 14, AND 24, 1950

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EXPOSÉ OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

BASED UPON TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC (UNDERCOVER AGENT)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1950

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE
ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D. C.

PUBLIC HEARING

MORNING SESSION

The subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 10:30 a. m., in room 226, Old House Office Building, Washington, D. C., Hon. John McSweeney presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives John McSweeney, Morgan M. Moulder, Richard M. Nixon (arriving as indicated), Francis Case (arriving as indicated), and Bernard W. Kearney.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., counsel; Louis J. Russell, senior investigator; Donald T. Appell, William A. Wheeler, and Courtney Owens, investigators; John W. Carrington, clerk; Benjamin Mandel, director of research; and A. S. Poore, editor.

Mr. McSWEENEY. The subcommittee is in session. I would like the record to show that Mr. Moulder, Mr. Kearney, and Mr. McSweeney are present.

You may proceed, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER Mr. Cvetic, will you be sworn, please.

Mr. McSWEENEY. You solemnly swear the testimony you give before the committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. CVETIC. I do.

TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, what is your full name, please?

Mr. CVETIC. Matthew Cvetic.

Mr. TAVENNER. I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that we complete the photographing phase of the hearing so that we will not interrupt the witness.

Mr. McSWEENEY. Gentlemen of the press, we want you to have every opportunity to take pictures, but we don't want you to interfere with our progress here.

Mr. TAVENNER. One photographer has suggested he would like a photograph taken while the witness is talking.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. Very well.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, when and where were you born?

Mr. CVETIC. I was born in Pittsburgh, March 4, 1909.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you lived in Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. All my life.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, will you please briefly outline to the committee your educational background?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I completed elementary school at St. Mary's Parochial School on Fifty-seventh Street in Pittsburgh. I finished 2 years at St. Vincent's College Preparatory School at Latrobe, Pa., and graduated from Curry Business College in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you briefly outline to the committee your employment background?

Mr. CVETIC. In 1925 or 1926 I went to work for I. W. Scott Co. in Pittsburgh. I worked there about 3½ years, and then went to work for the Etna Furniture Co. When I left there, I worked for General Motors about a year. After that, I operated a service station for my father and myself until about 1935.

In 1935 I went to work for the Department of Justice on a crime survey; and in December 1937 I went to work for the United States Employment Service, as a placement interviewer, and worked there until December 1945.

Mr. TAVENNER. In what city did you work for the United States Employment Service?

Mr. CVETIC. In Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. And you worked there how long?

Mr. CVETIC. About 8 years.

In December 1945 I went to work for the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief as the executive secretary in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long did you work for them?

Mr. CVETIC. About 2 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. And when did you cease working for them?

Mr. CVETIC. In December 1947, when I was made executive secretary of the American Slav Congress in western Pennsylvania. Then in November 1948 I went to work as an insurance salesman for E. J. Waldman Insurance Agency in Pittsburgh, and at the present time I am still an insurance salesman for E. J. Waldman Insurance Agency in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your nationality background?

Mr. CVETIC. Slovenian, born in Pittsburgh. My mother and dad came from Slovenia, which is in Yugoslavia.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. I have been a member of the Communist Party since February 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you briefly outline to the committee how you became a member of the Communist Party? In this connection, Mr. Cvetic, the committee would appreciate that you, for consistency, refer to your Communist membership as Communist Party membership. We realize that the Communist Party changed its name to the Communist Political Association from May 1944 until its convention in July 1945, when it again became the Communist Party.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I can do that. In April 1941, while I was employed at the United States Employment Service, I was approached by a Government agency and asked to volunteer my services to do undercover work. I met with their agent two or three times, and as a result of these meetings I agreed to take steps which would put me in a position to join the Communist Party for the purpose of furnishing the FBI with reports on Communist Party activities. That was in April of 1941.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is, Communist Party activities within the Pittsburgh area, western Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. No; in the United States.

Mr. TAVENNER. That means you expected to get what information you could from the country at large, and you were not restricted merely to the Pittsburgh area?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. After agreeing to engage in undercover work, what did you do?

Mr. CVETIC. My first step, which was taken in accordance with instructions, was to make friends with known or suspected Communists in the United States Employment Service. I became a Communist sympathizer. In other words, I parroted the Communist Party line, and whenever the Soviet Union was brought up I sided with the Soviet Union in arguments and debates, and, if I was invited, I attended Communist Party meetings open to known sympathizers and friends.

As a result of this, I became friends with three or four Communist Party members in the United States Employment Service. If you wish me to, I will be glad to mention their names.

Mr. TAVENNER. How did you know these persons were Communist Party members?

Mr. CVETIC. I had no immediate knowledge that they were Communist Party members, but after joining the Communist Party I attended district committee meetings, functionary meetings, and branch meetings with these people.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were the people you associated yourself with in the United States Employment Service who you later learned were members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. One of these was Sidney Horwitz.

Mr. KEARNEY. What is that name?

Mr. CVETIC. Sidney Horwitz, H-o-r-w-i-t-z.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was Sidney Horwitz?

Mr. CVETIC. At that time he was a senior interviewer in the United States Employment Service. Another person whom I later found to be a Communist Party member working in the United States Employment Service was Dorothy Sloan. She also used the name Slome, S-l-o-m-e. Another was Pauline Roth. She is now married. Her name is Pauline Jacobs.

Mr. TAVENNER. In 1941 you began associating with these people who were the principal ones who drew you into the Communist Party; is that correct?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. As a result of my contacts with Sidney Horwitz, I met another Communist Party member by the name of Andy Novak, who was instrumental in getting me into the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us in what way he was instrumental in getting you into the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Andy Novak had difficulty getting work because he was a known Communist at the time, and he was sent to me at the United States Employment Service by Sidney Horwitz for the purpose of putting him to work, which I did. After that I became very friendly with Andy Novak. It seemed he was always losing his job, and I put him in four or five jobs in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who actually recruited you in the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, who is now a member of the national board of the Communist Party, and Andy Novak signed my application.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say she is now a member of the national board of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. She is; yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. During what time in 1943 did you become a member? I believe you said in February?

Mr. CVETIC. It was in February, either on Washington's or Lincoln's birthday. It was on one of the holidays.

Mr. TAVENNER. How did that occur?

Mr. CVETIC. They had a meeting at the Fifth Avenue High School in Pittsburgh, and I was invited by Sidney Horwitz and Andy Novak to attend this meeting. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn came down to speak, and as a result of listening to her at this meeting I became converted and joined the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the purpose of holding this meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. The main purpose of the meeting was to recruit Communist Party members, and I was one of the two I remember being recruited by Elizabeth Gurley Flynn at this meeting.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have described the method by which you got into the Communist Party. Did you then continue to work in an undercover capacity in the party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. From that time on, I worked in an undercover capacity, up until the present time.

Mr. TAVENNER. To what group or cell were you assigned when you first were taken into the party?

Mr. CVETIC. Because I worked in a professional occupation, I was assigned to the professional branch in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were other members of that cell?

Mr. CVETIC. At the time I joined, Steve Dedijer and Dolly Gainor were two of the members. Later, Lee Kogan became the professional branch organizer there. Another member was Jack Strobel, the organizer in Pittsburgh for the United Office and Professional Workers of America.

M. Y. Steinberg, attorney, in Pittsburgh, was a member; Paul Morrison, chemist with the Hagan Chemical Corp. of Pittsburgh, was a member; Martin Krasich, an officer of the Croatian Fraternal Union, was a member; Jack Shore, a student at Carnegie Tech, was a member, as was his wife, Barbara Shore; Abe Franks and his wife, Nancy Franks, were members; and Ann Lipkind was a member.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who is Steve Dedijer?

Mr. CVETIC. At that time he was working for Slobodna Rec, which is the Serbian Communist newspaper in Pittsburgh. He was replaced by Mirko Markovich. Dedijer is now with the Yugoslav staff of United Nations.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know Mirko Markovich as a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I met with Mirko Markovich many times as a member of the Nationality Commission of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was Lee Kogan?

Mr. CVETIC. He was the professional branch organizer in Pittsburgh and also an organizer for the United Electrical Workers in Pittsburgh. He has since left Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. You state he was an organizer for the UE?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who was Dolly Gainor, referred to by you as one of the members of the professional branch?

Mr. CVETIC. Dolly Gainor at that time was a member of the city committee of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh. She is now living in Washington County, Pa., and is married to Pete Karpa. Pete Karpa was secretary of the city committee when I joined the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did this professional branch go by a particular designation or name?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. It was known as the Tom Paine Professional Branch.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you first assume a position in that branch or in that cell?

Mr. CVETIC. The first position I assumed was as a member of the executive committee of the Tom Paine branch sometime in the fall of 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you briefly outline to the committee the offices that you have held in that branch and other branches of the Communist Party up to the present time?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I will. First, as I mentioned, I was assigned to the Tom Paine Professional Branch and was a member of the executive committee there. Later I was transferred to the North Side Club and was a member of the executive committee in this club.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the North Side Club another cell of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, it was another cell of the Communist Party. Then I was transferred from the North Side Club to the East End Club of the Communist Party, and I was a member of the executive committee there.

From the East End Club I was transferred to the Lawrenceville Club, and there I was the branch organizer.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the purpose of transferring you from one cell to another?

Mr. CVETIC. These transfers usually came as a result of Communist Party organizational changes which were ordered by the district board of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania. In other words, you could not change yourself. There were organizational changes, regroupings, and so on.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who authorized the changes?

Mr. CVETIC. The district board of the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania.

My next position after that came in 1944 when I met with Pete Karpa, Dolly Gainor, and Max Weiss, who was then the district organizer for the Communist Party. They told me because of my nationality background, I was to be assigned to become active in language work. My first assignment was in the American Slav Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. What languages do you speak?

Mr. CVETIC. Slovene, Serbian, and Croatian I speak most fluently.

Mr. TAVENNER. When they started to assign you to organizational work, describe in detail what type of work they assigned you to.

Mr. CVETIC. At the time they assigned me to this work I was still a member of the professional branch and still had to attend branch meetings, as a Communist must, regardless of how long he is in the party. These assignments were given to me for the purpose of carrying the party line from the branch into the American Slav Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you, as a result of that assignment, gain an official position in the American Slav Congress in Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I became a member of the executive board of the American Slav Congress in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you get your first office in the American Slav Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. After the 1944 convention of the American Slav Congress. I was officially elected at this 1944 convention in Pittsburgh as a member of the National Committee of the American Slav Congress. Later on I will report at length on how we engineered the conventions.

To complete my Communist Party connections, I was a member of the district committee of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania.

I was a member of the nationality commission of the Communist Party, U. S. A., which body functions on the national level.

Then there is also a Nationality Commission that functions on a local level, and I was a member of that commission in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. So you were a member of both the national and local nationality commissions of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. This is a group of Communist Party members who plan and carry out Communist Party strategy and line into the nationality organizations in their community.

These commissions are also broken down into various language groups. For example, there is a Croatian commission; there is a Slovene commission; Slovak commission; Polish commission; Russian commission; Ukrainian commission; Italian commission; Greek commission; Jewish commission; and Serbian commission. These are Communist Party commissions, all of these.

Mr. TAVENNER. These are commissions within the nationality commission of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Which function on a national level?

Mr. CVETIC. National level and local.

Mr. MOULDER. Did they have a Negro commission?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. MOULDER. Did you name it?

Mr. CVETIC. I didn't name it in this group, but there is a Negro commission. They have a political commission, Negro commission, steel commission, and so on. I will go into those later.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is a slightly different thing from the type of commission you are speaking of at this point?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you continue with your chronology, please.

Mr. CVETIC. I was also secretary of the Slovene Commission of the Communist Party, U. S. A. Originally when I got into the Slovene commission I was elected chairman.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you speaking there of the area of Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. I am speaking of the national level.

Mr. TAVENNER. The commission of the national level?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I was first the chairman on the national level and later was made secretary on the national level of this commission.

Mr. TAVENNER. The Slovene group, then, was one of the numerous groups which you named which was represented on the Nationality Commission?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you have contacts, as Slovene secretary, with the work that was proceeding in communities other than Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. As chairman or secretary of the Slovene commission I had Communist Party contacts in New York, Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, and Johnstown. That is in addition to Pittsburgh and the western Pennsylvania area.

To continue with the chronology of positions I held, I was also a member of the organizational educational committee of the Communist Party, western Pennsylvania, for about 3 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. Very well. Let us go back at this point to the various cells you first belonged to upon entering the Communist Party. Can you tell the committee the names of some of the persons you met with as a member of the North Side Club, and also give us the names of the officers of that club.

Mr. CVETIC. One of the members of the North Side Club when I was a member was Joe Mankin. He was the branch organizer there. At the present time he is responsible for Communist Party concentration in the Hotel and Restaurant Union. He is in charge of the cell there now.

Then there is John Vidmar. He worked at the Language Press, 1916 East Street, as a set-up man. He was secretary of this North Side Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was his name?

Mr. CVETIC. John Vidmar.

Mr. TAVENNER. V-i-d-m-a-r?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. What do you mean by a set-up man?

Mr. CVETIC. He works in the shop of the Language Press. I am not a printer, but he would set up the job printing in the shop.

Another was Mark Lovett, but I understand he has since been expelled from the party. He was a member of the executive committee of the North Side Club.

Jim Dolsen: He is the Daily Worker editor and correspondent in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you mean at this time he is?

Mr. CVETIC. He was at that time and still is.

Another member was Eddie Lang. At the present time he is a steward in the Heinz Co. plant.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is, a steward in the union at the Heinz Co. plant?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Dick Soine; Pete Skertich; Hamp Golden, who also works at the Heinz Co.; and Joe Mazzei.

Mr. TAVENNER. You were transferred then into the East End Club. Will you give us the names of the officers in the East End Club?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. In the East End Club Dolly Gainor was chairman.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was she transferred from the Tom Paine professional branch along with you?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. When we left the Tom Paine branch I was transferred first to the North Side and later to the East End Club, and when I was transferred to the East End Club, Dolly Gainor was chairman of the East End Club.

Another member was Esther Roth: She is now employed as Jack Strobel's secretary at the western Pennsylvania district of the United Office and Professional Workers of America.

Mr. TAVENNER. What about Louis Filetich?

Mr. CVETIC. He was a member of the East End Club when I came there. Ruth Goldman was another member; and Dorothy Sloan was a member of the East End Club when I went out there.

Mr. TAVENNER. She was also transferred from the Tom Paine professional branch?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then you were assigned to the Lawrenceville Club. Is that correct?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. What position did you hold there?

Mr. CVETIC. In the Lawrenceville Club I was the branch organizer and Filetich was the secretary.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he transferred from the East End Club?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The Lawrenceville Club was formed out of members who were transferred from the East End Club and some new members were recruited in the Lawrenceville area. Some of these members are: Martin Harrison, who works at Carnegie Steel Co., Etna; Joseph Migalich, who also works at the Carnegie Steel Co., Etna; John Jenca, who also works at the Carnegie Steel Co., Etna; and Eleanor Sackter.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell us what plan was used in the organization of these clubs, the North Side Club, the East End Club, and the Lawrenceville Club? That is, what was the basis for selection of members for those particular clubs?

Mr. CVETIC. In those particular communities the basis of selection was very much on a community level. Communist Party members who lived in these particular areas were assigned to these clubs when there were regroupings ordered by the district committee. For example, in the North Side Club originally our major activity was organizing Communist Party mass meetings in the park on the North Side. Later on, especially after the 1945 convention, we concentrated

our activities in the plants, because that was the Communist Party line after 1945. In the North Side Club we concentrated in such plants as the Heinz Co. plant, plants in the Manchester area.

Mr. TAVENNER. What type of plants are you speaking of?

Mr. CVETIC. My activity was mostly limited to Lawrenceville, but from the section committee meetings I attended, I knew our comrades or party members were pretty busy in the Heinz plant trying to build a party there.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you say in the Heinz Co. plant, do you mean any particular group in that plant?

Mr. CVETIC. Within the union. Our members were usually instructed, whenever possible, to become shop stewards or be elected to some position.

Mr. MOULDER. What business is the Heinz Co. engaged in?

Mr. CVETIC. It is a food processing plant; I think one of the biggest in the country.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have described the function of this North Side Club. What was the function of the East End Club?

Mr. CVETIC. That functioned on a community level. There were no industries there. It was a residential area, and most of the work out there was distributing Communist Party literature, distributing and selling the Daily and Sunday Worker, and so on, raising funds for the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the chief function of the Lawrenceville Club?

Mr. CVETIC. That was also a community club, something like the East End Club, although we did have mills and plants there in which we became active. Some of the members were assigned to distributing literature in Lawrenceville plants and in other areas.

Mr. TAVENNER. I understand you were the organizer of the Lawrenceville Club?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. What work did you do while an organizer of that club, with regard to the formation of other cells of the party?

Mr. CVETIC. I helped to organize a cell in the Crucible Steel Co., which is located at Thirtieth Street in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. How many members were recruited into that cell?

Mr. CVETIC. The top membership at one time was approximately 22 members.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were they all employees of the Crucible Steel Co.?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; all employees of the Crucible Steel Co.

(Representative Case enters hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. When was this work done by you?

Mr. CVETIC. This was back in 1945 and 1946 when we started recruiting in the Crucible Steel Co.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. I would like the record to show Mr. Case is present.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you furnish the committee with the names of the members of this group in the Crucible Steel branch of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. I would like to name some of the leaders. Among the members of this group were: Joseph "Sonny" Robinson, Zygmund Pascowski, and Mike Filewich. They were the leaders in this particular cell.

Mr. McSWEENEY. What is the origin of the term "cell"?

Mr. CVETIC. While I was in the Communist Party we used that term to designate a particular club. We used club, branch, or cell.

Mr. McSWEENEY. They were interchangeable?

Mr. CVETIC. They were interchangeable. Cell would generally be used in an industry, and a club or branch would be used more in a community, but when they talk about organizing a group in a plant or a mill, they usually talk of it as a cell, while the activities on a community basis are built more out in the open, and the term "club" would be used. In a plant, even if they have only two or three members they call it a cell and carry the party line into the plant with these few members.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have previously testified that in 1944 you were assigned by Max Weiss to work among the language groups. Will you outline to the committee some of your functions under this assignment?

Mr. CVETIC. Max Weiss was district organizer. One of my first assignments was to mobilize the Slovene organizations in western Pennsylvania for the national convention of the American Slav Congress which was to be held in Pittsburgh in September 1944.

Mr. TAVENNER. What were some of the organizations in the Pittsburgh area within this Slovene group?

Mr. CVETIC. The SNPJ lodges.

Mr. TAVENNER. What do you mean by SNPJ?

Mr. CVETIC. That is a Slovene fraternal organization. Shall I spell it out?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. S-l-o-v-e-n-s-k-a N-a-r-o-d-n-a P-o-d-p-o-r-n-a J-e-d-n-o-t-a.

Mr. TAVENNER. What do you mean by that?

Mr. CVETIC. In English it means the Slovenian Mutual Benefit Society.

Another organization was the American Fraternal Union; and the Slovenian American National Council. These were the three main organizations.

I want to point out that these are not Communist Party organizations, but Communist Party members, like myself, who were Slovenes, were instructed by the Communist Party to carry the party line into these organizations. These are not Communist organizations. They are American fraternal organizations. I want to make that clear.

Mr. TAVENNER. They were organizations which were the objects of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have spoken of a Slovene commission on a national level. Was there a Slovenian commission on a local level in Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The three leading members of the commission in Pittsburgh were Anthony Cipicic, George Witkovich, and myself. We were the leaders of the commission in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you the chairman of this group?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. As chairman of the Slovenian commission, you were also a member of the nationality commission of the Communist Party on a national level?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. I was elected chairman of the Slovenian commission at a meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, held in Communist Party headquarters.

Mr. TAVENNER. When was that?

Mr. CVETIC. In 1945.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. What is the difference between a Slovene and a Slovak; is there any difference?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Slovenians, Croatians, and Serbians come from Yugoslavia. A Slovak comes from Czechoslovakia.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. Is it a language or a geographical difference?

Mr. CVETIC. Both language and geographical.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. Thank you.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you outline to the committee the procedure that was followed in calling this meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, at which you were elected to the nationality commission of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I met with Avrom Landy in Pittsburgh. He is also known as Al Landy.

Mr. MOULDER. Can you fix the date?

Mr. CVETIC. I can't fix a date on this. I can only fix an approximate time. It was sometime in 1945. When I met with him he asked me to call together the leading members of the Communist Party in the Slovene group. He told me I could get the names of the leading members from George Witkovich. I met with Witkovich, and he supplied me with the names of the key members in Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, New York, and Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. By members do you mean Communist Party members within the Slovene group?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. At this point, I would like to ask you, is Avrom Landy a member of the Communist Party, or was he?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. What else can you tell us about him?

Mr. CVETIC. When I met Avrom Landy he was in charge of nationality work for the Communist Party, USA. These assignments are made by the national board of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was his purpose in being in Pittsburgh at that time, if you know?

Mr. CVETIC. Specifically, at that time he came to Pittsburgh to meet with the leading Communist Party members from the nationality field at the Language Press. He met with the Communist Party organizers who worked in the International Workers' Order, and with the Communist Party members who were responsible for the work in the American Slav Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who is George Witkovich?

Mr. CVETIC. He is a Communist Party member. I have known him to be a member for 15 or 20 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. How did you know he was a member for that period of time, or a member at all?

Mr. CVETIC. I know because George and Landy worked together in the Communist Party. George was editor for the Communist newspaper *Naprej*, and that was the Slovene Communist newspaper which was published in Pittsburgh and Cleveland in the late thirties.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have said that Avrom Landy sent you to George Witkovich for the names of the leading members of the Communist Party in the Slovene group that you should call together. Why did Landy suggest to you that you get in touch with Witkovich to obtain the names of these leaders?

Mr. CVETIC. George Witkovich was leader in the Slovene Communist Party work in the late thirties, and Landy told me he would have these names and would give them to me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Witkovich supply you with the names?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; he did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you give us the names of such of the leaders as you can recall?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I will give you the names of the key Communist Party members in this commission which he supplied me with. These were: John Bostjancich, from Cleveland, Ohio; Martin Cetinski, Detroit, Mich.; Frank Urbancich, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Frank Japich, Chicago, Ill.; Anthony Cipicic, Pittsburgh. These are the key people in the Communist Party's Slovenian commission.

Mr. TAVENNER. These names which you have just given us are the names which you procured as a result of the instructions given by Avrom Landy?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Why was Cleveland, Ohio, selected as the place for this meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. Cleveland, Ohio, was selected as the place for the meeting because there we have the largest concentration of Slovene people in America, and it was felt by Avrom Landy that if we had the meeting there we would have the best turn-out.

Mr. TAVENNER. At this meeting at the Communist Party headquarters in Cleveland, which you called together on instructions from Avrom Landy, what specifically, was the purpose of the meeting? What was this group going to do?

Mr. CVETIC. The purpose of the meeting as outlined by Avrom Landy was to elect officers to the Slovene commission of the Communist Party, United States of America; to discuss plans for editing either a newspaper or a bulletin in the name of the Slovene Communist Party, and to discuss strategy and infiltration into the Slovenian American National Council, which is a form of political action organization.

Mr. TAVENNER. At this meeting, were officers elected to represent the body?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. We elected a chairman, a secretary, and what would be termed a "committee" or "commission" of one from each city to serve on this body.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were elected as officers?

Mr. CVETIC. At this meeting I was elected as chairman. Jack Lencl, from Cleveland, Ohio, was elected as secretary.

Mr. TAVENNER. Other than Jack Lencl and yourself, who were present at this meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. Gus Hall, Communist Party organizer at Cleveland, Ohio, and now a member of the national board of the Communist Party, U. S. A.; Arnold Johnson, present head of the nationality commission of the Communist Party, U. S. A.; John Bostjancich, Cleveland, Ohio; Martin Cetinski, Detroit, Mich.; and George Witkovich, from Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. How many meetings, approximately, did you attend of the nationality commission?

Mr. CVETIC. It would be difficult to set a number. In the 5 or 6 years I was a member of this commission I would say on a national level two or three every year. There was no set time for these meetings.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. Did you go to these meetings at your own expense, or were your expenses paid for by your organization?

Mr. CVETIC. Usually we went at our own expense. I would almost have to qualify each meeting. There was no set time for these nationality commission meetings. They would be called whenever some function was going on in the particular city.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. Were you elected to go, or did you just go?

Mr. CVETIC. I was assigned to the nationality commission of the Communist Party by the Communist Party leadership.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. You were not voted a delegate?

Mr. CVETIC. No. This nationality commission of the Communist Party is not a delegated body. It functions similarly to the Politburo in the Kremlin. It is the policy-making body of the Communist Party in the nationality field, and as a member of the Slovene commission I naturally became a member of the nationality commission of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who called these meetings of the nationality commission?

Mr. CVETIC. These meetings were in all cases called by the national leader of the Communist Party in this commission. While I was a member, Avrom Landy was head of this commission; Steve Nelson was head of the commission for over 3 years; and at the present time Arnold Johnson is at the head of this commission.

Mr. CASE. Did you know Steve Nelson by any name other than Steve Nelson?

Mr. CVETIC. I knew him by the name of Steve Nelson and Steve Mesarosh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell us a little more in detail what was discussed at the nationality commission meetings, and what functions the commission performed?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I will be glad to do that. While I was a member of this nationality commission, meetings were called when there were party-line changes which had to be taken into nationality work by this commission.

Nationality-commission meetings, were also called when there were functions into which the Communist Party wanted to carry the Communist Party line. Meetings were also called to plan and direct the work of the Communist Party members in the front organizations, the Language Press, fraternal organizations, trade-unions, and other mass organizations in which they had an interest.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you mean the instructions which Communists received in Communist-front organizations had their origin in this commission?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct. These were on the basis of policy changes. A member did not volunteer to take the party line. You were by party discipline procedure expected to carry the party line.

Mr. McSWEENEY. I will call a recess at 12 o'clock, and would like to know if the members would like to question the witness at this time or would you rather ask questions at the conclusion of his testimony? What do you think, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. I have no real preference.

Mr. KEARNEY. Personally, I would rather let the witness finish his testimony.

Mr. TAVENNER. It might be a little better. Otherwise, you might question him about things that are going to be answered later.

Mr. MOULDER. In my case, I have a question that would fit in now, and I probably won't return this afternoon. May I proceed?

Mr. McSWEENEY. Yes.

Mr. MOULDER. My questions are not in the spirit of discrediting any testimony you have given. You made reference to official positions you have held in connection with your Communist Party affiliations. You haven't testified who delegated you to those official positions from national headquarters. Is that in your testimony to follow?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. For example, when I was asked to assume responsibility in the nationality field, I got instructions through Max Weiss. I testified to that. Max Weiss was a member of the district committee in western Pennsylvania. His instructions came from the national board.

Mr. MOULDER. Your connections were only with the district officers at all times?

Mr. CVETIC. Not at all times. My assignments later on came from Steve Nelson, Arnold Johnson, and Avrom Landy.

Mr. MOULDER. Did they issue any documents by way of identification, cards, or something else?

Mr. CVETIC. I was going to testify later that until 1948 we were issued Communist Party cards. Since that time, for security reasons, all documents, records, and cards were destroyed.

Mr. MOULDER. And you destroyed yours?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I turned it in.

Mr. McSWEENEY. Mr. Case, can you come back this afternoon?

(Representative Case confers with Representative McSweeney.)

(Representative Nixon arrives in hearing room.)

Mr. McSWEENEY. Will the record also show Mr. Nixon is present. Proceed and I will call a recess at 12 o'clock.

Mr. TAVENNER. I interrupted you in your testimony to ask you about the source of the directions or instructions to Communist Party members who were working in different Communist-front organizations. Can you tell us more about the functioning of the nationality commission?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. When we stopped, I was going into where we carried the party line.

In 1944 the nationality commission met prior to and during the American Slav Congress convention in Pittsburgh. It met prior to and during the national convention of the Croatian Fraternal Union in Pittsburgh in 1947. It met, when party-line changes such as the Tito-Stalin split occurred, to announce that the party line to be followed would be as directed by the Cominform.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then, when that Communist Party line was settled upon, it was necessary that all members working under that group carry out that policy?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Communist discipline made it mandatory. Vacillation meant you could not remain a member of the party. For example, the Titoites were automatically expelled.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the policy sent to your commission, or was it formed by your commission?

Mr. CVETIC. It was sent down to the commission. It was never formed there. I was a member of the party 7 years. I have never been responsible for forming the policy. The orders came down through district organizers, from the national board.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. Where did they get their policy?

Mr. CVETIC. I don't think I can answer that. With the exception of attending the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945, I never attended national board meetings of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you give us the names of the officers and members of the nationality commission of the Communist Party; that is, the commission that functioned on a national level?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. These are members with whom I have attended meetings:

Avrom Landy was chairman from 1944, when I first joined, until the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945. After the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945, Steve Nelson, who returned from the west coast, was made chairman and served from July 1945 until August 1948.

After August 1948, Arnold Johnson was made chairman, and at the present time he is still chairman of this commission.

Among the members nationally of the nationality commission with whom I have met are the following:

George Pirinsky, executive secretary of the American Slav Congress;

Harry Justiz, attorney, New York City;

Leo Fisher, editor of Narodni Glasnik;

Mane Susnjar, editor of Slobodna Rec, Pittsburgh;

Calvin Brook, B-r-o-o-k, and he also spells it B-r-u-c-k, editor of Ludovy Noviny;

Abner Green, executive secretary, American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born;

Sam Milgrom, officer of the International Workers' Order;

Israel Amter, member of the International Workers' Order;

Michael Hanusiak, organizer, International Workers' Order;

Daniel Kasustchik, organizer, Russian section;

Boleslaw Gebert, organizer, Polish section, who fled to Poland on the Gydnia-American Line ship *Batory*;

Victor Sharenkoff, Bulgarian section;

Tony Gerlach, New York City;

Michael Tkach, Ukrainian section;

Zarko Buncich, attorney, Akron, Ohio. I don't think he is active at present. I haven't met with him for the last 4 years or so.

Peter Vukevich, Serbian, IWO;

Anthony Minerich, Croatian, editor Rodni Glasnik.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did these individuals whose names you have listed serve on the nationality commission of the Communist Party at the same time, or at various times over a period of years?

Mr. CVETIC. They served over a period of years, from 1944 up until the present time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, this committee in 1949 held a hearing on the activities of Toma Babin. Did you know Toma Babin?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I did. I knew him as Toma Babin and also as Tom Babin.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he, to your knowledge, a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I knew Tom to be a member of the Communist Party because I attended nationality commission meetings of the Communist Party with Toma Babin.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you attend a meeting on June 21, 1947, in room 208 of the Hotel Lincoln in New York City?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. What instructions did you receive with regard to this meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. At that time I was in the American Slav Congress offices at Pittsburgh, and I was called by Leo Fisher and told that the nationality commission was going to meet in New York City and that Steve Nelson sent instructions that I should come on to New York to attend this meeting.

I went to New York. My instructions were to go to the Yugoslav Home there. I was under the impression that that was where the meeting would be held.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where was the meeting to be held, and how did you learn where it was to be held?

Mr. CVETIC. When I arrived at the Yugoslav Home——

Mr. TAVENNER. That is located at 405 West Thirty-first Street?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. When I arrived there, I was met by Pete Vukceovich. He told me to keep the FBI off the trail, we were all going to this meeting place separately. He escorted me to the Hotel Lincoln and to room 208, where the meeting was held.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, on May 27, 1949, Toma Babin appeared before the House Committee on Un-American Activities and denied that he had attended this meeting or had any knowledge of its existence. He also denied knowing Leo Bacich, Harry Justiz, George Pirinsky, and others whom the committee understood to have been present at this meeting.¹ Was Toma Babin in attendance at this meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. Absolutely.

Mr. TAVENNER. Absolutely yes or no?

Mr. CVETIC. Absolutely yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were Leo Bacich, Harry Justiz, and George Pirinsky also in attendance at this meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you outline to this committee the persons who were at this meeting and the purpose for which the meeting was held?

Mr. CVETIC. Steve Nelson, who was at that time chairman of the nationality commission of the Communist Party, USA; Leo Bacich, representative of the Croatian section of the Communist Party; Harry Justiz, representative of the Croatian section of the Communist Party; George Pirinsky, representative of the Macedonian section; Tony

¹ See hearings regarding Toma Babin, May 27 and July 6, 1949.

Gerlach, Sr., representative of the Croatian section of the Communist Party; Leo Fisher, representative of the Croatian section of the Communist Party; myself as representative of the Slovenian section of the Communist Party; Daisy Lolich, representative of the Serbian section of the Communist Party; and a representative of the Croatian section of the Communist Party of Canada by the name of Yardish.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know Yardish's first name?

Mr. CVETIC. I do not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you recall any others who were present at this meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. Toma Babin was at this meeting. Dr. Slavko Zore, from the Yugoslav Embassy, was there; and another member of the Yugoslav Embassy staff was present.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know what position in the Yugoslav Embassy Dr. Slavko Zore held?

Mr. CVETIC. At the present time it skips me, but I knew at that time. I met with him at various times in the Yugoslav Home and at the Embassy.

Mr. TAVENNER. You state there was another person from the Yugoslav Embassy present. Was that Pero Dragila?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; he was there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us exactly what took place at this meeting.

Mr. CVETIC. This meeting was called by Steve Nelson for the purpose of discussing the work of the nationality commission and the various nationality groups.

The meeting began shortly after 8 o'clock. It was opened by Leo Fisher, who was made chairman of this meeting. He presented a report on the activities of the Croatian Fraternal Union—and here I want to mention not the activities of the union but the activities of the Communist Party members, and the success they were attaining in connection with a convention that was to be held that year. He reported in detail the steps that were being taken in the elections of this organization, and reported also that his information showed that the majority of the delegates elected to the Croatian Fraternal Union convention were on our side.

Mr. TAVENNER. What do you mean by "our side"?

Mr. CVETIC. That we had won them over to the Communist Party program.

At this meeting Fisher also mentioned the possible candidates to be supported at this convention. I will qualify this so that we will not believe everybody elected was a Communist. The Communist Party had a line to elect as many as possible who would cooperate. He pointed out that the majority of delegates were elected by the Communist Party members and they would support the candidates proposed by the "progressive coalition" slate.

Mr. TAVENNER. In other words, it didn't mean everybody elected by the Communist Party members were Communist Party members?

Mr. CVETIC. No. It was a deal. One or two were Communist Party members, but others were a part of the "progressive coalition" slate.

Mr. TAVENNER. In working for this "progressive coalition" slate, did those who were not Communists know that they were working for Communists?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, because Anthony Minerich and others I mentioned were known Communists, and anyone who worked for them worked on that basis.

Mr. KEARNEY. Did you say "no Communists" or "known Communists"?

Mr. CVETIC. Known Communists.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have told us about the report at this meeting by Leo Fisher. Were there other reports?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Daisy Lolich reported that the Communist Party had not been able to elect any delegates to the Serbian National Federation convention which was to be held at a future date. Miss Lolich also pointed out that we had even lost representation in this organization.

Pete Vukceovich reported that in New York City small advances had been made by the Communist Party in at least three lodges of the Serbian National Federation.

I presented a report on the Slovenian American National Council convention which had been held in Cleveland, Ohio, during the latter part of May 1947. I reported that inasmuch as the Social Democrats within that organization staged a fight among themselves on the floor, we were successful in electing seven Communist Party members to the executive board and committee of this organization.

Following my report—and this was around 9:15—Dr. Slavko Zore and Pero Dragila came into the meeting, escorted by Toma Babin. Dr. Zore immediately raised a question as to why Anne Traven from the United Committee of South Slavic Americans had not been invited.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you identify for the committee the United Committee of South Slavic Americans?

Mr. CVETIC. This committee was set up by the Communist Party, United States of America, for the purpose of disseminating their political propaganda of the new Yugoslav Government under Marshal Tito. This, of course, was before the Tito-Stalin split. Some of the officers and leaders of this committee were Louis Adamic, Zlatko Balokovich, Anne Traven, Pete Vukceovich, Leo Bacich, and Harry Justiz. They are not all Communist Party members.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Counsel, have you brought out what that committee does?

Mr. TAVENNER. Explain a little more in detail the purposes of this committee.

Mr. CVETIC. The committee issued bulletins; it issued pamphlets.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think Congressman Case had reference to the United Committee of South Slavic Americans.

Mr. CASE. I meant the committee you differentiated by saying, after you gave their names, that they were not necessarily Communists. I want to know what that committee did that these people were members of.

Mr. TAVENNER. Explain the functions of that committee.

Mr. McSWEENEY. Were you still describing the meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. I was going into a discussion of the United Committee of South Slavic Americans, and I think Congressman Case would like to know what that committee was.

Mr. CASE. That is right.

Mr. CVETIC. Members of this committee like Louis Adamic and Zlatko Balokovich worked with known Communist members to form this committee. Both Louis Adamic and Zlatko Balokovich knew the people they were working with were known Communists, so it was actually a Communist-front organization.

The purpose of the committee was to disseminate political propaganda in the United States about the government of Marshal Tito. This was done by distributing pamphlets and bulletins, organizing meetings, and so on.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. Mr. Kearney would like to ask a few questions.

Mr. KEARNEY. I understood you to say previously in your testimony that on one particular occasion when you journeyed to a meeting your expenses were not paid by the party. Were your expenses paid to this meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. Shall I generalize on this?

Mr. KEARNEY. What I am getting at is, have your expenses been paid to any of these meetings?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Some of the expenses of attending these meetings were paid by the American Slav Congress when I was an officer there.

Mr. KEARNEY. Were your expenses ever paid by the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. No.

Mr. KEARNEY. Not at all?

Mr. CVETIC. No.

Mr. KEARNEY. In all your journeys through the country, none of your expenses were paid by the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. Were these people progressives or pro-Communists?

Mr. CVETIC. The editor of the Croatian newspaper met regularly with some members of our commission, knowing they were Communist Party members. That is Filip Vukelich.

Mr. KEARNEY. I would like to develop that a little further, but I see the time has expired.

Mr. MCSWEENEY. Let us stand at recess until 2 o'clock.

(Thereupon, at 12 o'clock noon, a recess was taken until 2 o'clock of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

(The subcommittee reconvened at 2:55 p. m.)

Mr. WOOD. The committee will be in order.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, at the time of our morning recess, the witness was narrating what occurred at a meeting in the Lincoln Hotel, New York City, in room 208, on June 21, 1947, which was attended, as he testified, by Steve Nelson and a number of other people, and Toma Babin, who was before this committee at one time. The witness has testified that Toma Babin was present with those people, and you will recall the testimony by Babin here was that he denied being there and denied knowing the people who were mentioned as being there.

Mr. WOOD. Let the record show that for the purpose of this afternoon's session there are at present Mr. McSweeney, Mr. Kearney, and myself as a subcommittee.

You may proceed.

Mr. TAVENNER. The witness had also testified that Dr. Zore of the Yugoslav Embassy was brought into this meeting by Toma Babin, and that Dr. Zore had asked why it was that a person by the name of Anne Traven had not been invited to the meeting.

TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you begin there, Mr. Cvetic, and state what reply was given as to why Anne Traven, a member of the United Committee of South Slavic Americans, had not been invited to this meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. In answer to Dr. Zore's question, Steve Nelson stated that he was of the opinion that she should not attend this meeting as he could not vouch for her, but that he could vouch for all the others present.

Mr. TAVENNER. After that statement, tell us what occurred at the meeting.

Mr. CVETIC. After that the principal topic of discussion, the United Committee of South Slavic Americans, was taken up. Leo Fisher reported that during a recent United Committee meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, Louis Adamic had stated that unless the committee raised a fund of \$35,000 to complete the functioning, he would drop out of the organization.

According to Fisher, Louis Adamic also stated that the committee was in debt to the sum of \$4,000 and at the present time was accomplishing nothing. Fisher concluded his report by advancing the opinion that the United Committee should be made a part of the American Slav Congress.

A lengthy discussion ensued with regard to the latter suggestion, and there were many divergencies of opinion. Dr. Zore, from the Yugoslav Embassy, speaking in Croatian, remarked that the present sad state of affairs with regard to the United Committee must be blamed on the Communist Party and no one else. He said:

We must not work as Americans or Yugoslavs, but as Communists working for a common purpose. Our party and its members must realize that the United Committee is their responsibility.

Dr. Zore sharply criticized those who felt there was no need for the United Committee as being shortsighted, and stressed that the movement must not suffer the loss of Louis Adamic's leadership.

He mentioned that the \$4,000 debt of the United Committee could be taken care of, and that it was nothing to worry about. Dr. Zore stated in order to continue the committee's work the Communist Party must assign responsibility to comrades in New York, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, and elsewhere to work with this committee.

Dr. Zore also stated that it was not desirable at this time that the United Committee becomes a mass organization like the American Slav Congress; that all that should be required would be a small committee operating in each community, responsible for the United Committee's work.

Dr. Zore stated that the Yugoslav Embassy was ready to help by sending two or three people from Yugoslavia into the various locali-

ties to speak at any meetings which could be organized through this committee.

Dr. Zore further stated:

We Communist Party members at the Yugoslav Embassy had a meeting and came to the conclusion that the United Committee must be continued; that the Communist Party is on top and assumes leadership in Yugoslavia, and the Communists here in the United States must, in their own way, assume leadership and take the responsibilities for carrying on the committee's work.

Dr. Zore also mentioned that Dr. Vladko Macek——

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you spell that name?

Mr. CVETIC. Dr. Vladko Macek, M-a-c-e-k, had met with former Ambassador Fotich——

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you spell it?

Mr. CVETIC. F-o-t-i-c-h, in the United States, and that these individuals were working to overthrow the present government in Yugoslavia. He alleged that Fotich has worked as a British agent for more than 33 years.

Dr. Zore addressed those present as comrades, and referred to himself as a Communist Party member. He pointed out several times that it does not matter whether one is American or Yugoslavian, he should work as a Communist and bear in mind that his entire responsibility is to the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me stop you there a moment. In stating that his responsibility is to the Communist Party, how was his responsibility to this Government considered in relation to his alleged responsibility to the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. In the Communist Party, as long as I have been a member, a responsibility to this Government was never considered. Your responsibility was always to the Communist Party, and under Communist discipline you had to carry out the instructions of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then in case of a conflict of interest between the Communist Party and the United States the primary allegiance was to the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Continue, please.

Mr. CVETIC. Pero Dragila also delivered an address echoing the sentiments of Dr. Zore.

Mr. KEARNEY. Mr. Chairman, I hesitate to break in at this point, but in my own mind there is something that I think should be cleared up. When the witness says a responsibility to the Communist Party, does the gentleman mean the Communist Party of the United States, the International Communist Party, the leadership of which, according to reports, is in Moscow, or just what does the gentleman mean?

Mr. CVETIC. I will try to clarify this. We have a Communist Party in the United States of America. In Communist Party meetings when we referred to the Communist Party, or to bringing communism, we never referred to bringing communism to one country, to one city, to one community, or to one State. In Communist Party classes, in discussions, we always talked about bringing international communism, working in the Communist Party to bring international communism. The responsibility of a Communist, when we talk about a Communist Party, is to this international Communist movement.

Mr. KEARNEY. Where is that headed from?

Mr. CVETIC. This is taken from the books on theory and practice, and later in the testimony, if I may, I will substantiate that with excerpts from the teachings of Marx and Lenin which we have used in classes while I was in the Communist Party.

Mr. KEARNEY. Where are your orders taken from?

Mr. CVETIC. Orders in this country have come down from the national board of the Communist Party, United States of America.

Mr. KEARNEY. Where do they take their orders from?

Mr. CVETIC. As I mentioned before, I never attended meetings of the national board of the Communist Party, United States of America, but the classes which were organized were organized with the authority of the national board of the Communist Party, and these classes, based on the teachings of Marx and Lenin, were, without deviation, that we were working for an international Communist movement.

Mr. TAVENNER. And is that taught to the rank and file of the Communist Party through the cells such as those you were a member of?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; that is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. I will ask you further questions about that later on in your testimony. You have told us that the same line of argument was made by Pero Dragila as that made by Dr. Zore. Will you proceed?

Mr. CVETIC. Following the discussion, Steve Nelson proposed the following conclusions, which were accepted by those in attendance:

First, the American Slav Congress should be the Communist Party's top organization in the United States, and it will continue to work as a mass organization.

Second, Leo Fisher, Daisy Lolic, and myself are assigned to be responsible for the work of the United Committee of South Slavic Americans in Pittsburgh; and Leo Bacich and Harry Justiz are to assume that committee's responsibility in New York.

Upon Leo Fisher's opposition to the above conclusion, and that was in regard to himself, it was decided he should assume responsibility for the United Committee's work in Pittsburgh only until Anthony Minerich's return from Yugoslavia.

The third conclusion was that the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief and the American Association for Reconstruction in Yugoslavia will continue on the present basis.

Just prior to the adjournment of this meeting, the Canadian representative, Yardish, proposed that an organization somewhat akin to Amtorg be set up to handle transactions for machinery and so forth for Yugoslavia. No decision was made concerning this suggestion, although it was mentioned that Harry Justiz should devote some of his own time to the consideration of same.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 a. m. June 22, 1947. After the meeting Dr. Zore met with Steve Nelson and sharply criticized him for not exerting better discipline among the members of the nationality commission.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, you have testified that Steve Nelson advised that the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief and the American Association for Reconstruction in Yugoslavia would continue on the present basis. Were these two organizations completely controlled by the Communist Party, United States of America?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. While we had many non-Communists fronting in these organizations, the policy for these organizations was discussed

and decided upon at meetings of the nationality commission of the Communist Party, United States of America.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the attitude of the nationality commission toward the Tito regime in Yugoslavia?

Mr. CVETIC. You mean since the break with the Cominform?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. The nationality commission, following this break, immediately organized a campaign attacking Tito as an "enemy of the people's democracy." These attacks were carried into the language newspapers which the Communist Party controlled, into Political Affairs, which is the Communist press political outlet, and into the Daily and Sunday Worker. Tito's action and break with the Cominform was branded as Titoism, and anyone who did not follow the new Communist line regarding Tito was branded a Titoite and expelled from the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. What happened of significance within the ranks of the Communist Party and its front organizations as a result of this complete turn-about in party line regarding Tito?

Mr. CVETIC. There was a serious rift among Americans of Yugoslav descent within the Communist Party. This breach has become so serious that the Communist Party has required its leaders to speak out violently against Tito.

These words were spoken by Steve Nelson at a meeting I attended recently in Pittsburgh, called specifically for the purpose of cementing the break within the Communist Party on this issue: "We must fight against Titoism wherever it rears its ugly head."

He elaborated by saying anyone who does not follow the Cominform line will be expelled from the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, other than the meeting held in the Hotel Lincoln, to which you have testified, what other recent meetings were held by the nationality commission of the Communist Party, and where were they held?

Mr. CVETIC. I met with this commission from 1944 up to 1950 in New York, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Detroit, and Chicago, always before conventions of front organizations, during conferences, and so on. The Pittsburgh commission, during 1944 and 1945, met regularly in the offices of the International Workers' Order, which at that time were located in the Columbia Bank Building. We also met in the offices of the Language Press at 1916 East Street. We met at 440 Wood Street, third floor. Since we used to meet there that building has been torn down. Recently we have been meeting at 943 Liberty Avenue and Ukrainian Hall, South Side, Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is at 440 Wood Street?

Mr. CVETIC. At the time we met there one of the members of the Communist Party had a music store at that address and the third floor was used by the Communist Party in Pittsburgh for party meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who owned or operated that music store?

Mr. CVETIC. George Dietze.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; and still is.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is at 943 Liberty Avenue?

Mr. CVETIC. This same George Dietze operates an engraving shop on the second floor of 943 Liberty Avenue. Part of this building is used as a travel bureau, and the back part of his shop on the second floor is used as a meeting place for the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. When was the last meeting of the Pittsburgh Nationality Commission that you attended?

Mr. CVETIC. The latter part of October or first part of November 1949. The Commission has not met since that time, because Steve Nelson, the chairman of the Pittsburgh commission, has been laid up with a broken leg.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where was the last meeting held?

Mr. CVETIC. The last meeting I attended was at 1916 East Street, the office of the Communist Language Press. This meeting was called for the purpose of setting up an American Yugoslav Defense Committee of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign-Born.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who attended this last meeting in October or November 1949?

Mr. CVETIC. This meeting was attended by Steve Nelson, the district organizer for the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania; Mane Susnjar, Leo Fisher, Tony Minerich, Calvin Brook, and myself.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you give us the dates and places of other nationality commission meetings subsequent to the meeting at the Lincoln Hotel in New York?

Mr. CVETIC. I can give you some prior to and subsequent to such date.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you do that, please?

Mr. CVETIC. During the summer of 1944 the nationality commission met regularly in offices of the International Workers' Order in the Columbia Bank Building, and also in offices of the Communist Party in the Bakewell Building in Pittsburgh, for the purpose of planning the national convention of the American Slav Congress, which was scheduled to be held in Pittsburgh in September of that year.

I attended most of these meetings as a member of the national commission. Avrom Landy, who was in charge of the nationality commission for the Communist Party, made several visits to Pittsburgh during these months to help plan the work. Other Communist Party members who helped plan the work for this convention, and who were specifically assigned to this work by the Communist Party, were the following:

Mary Pridhoff Pirinsky, who at that time was the wife of George Pirinsky; Helen Vrabel, who is now in New York and is the wife of Mike Saunders; Mike Hanusiak; Anthony Minerich; Calvin Brook; Mane Susnjar; Pete Vukcevic; Milo Mamula; Agnes Vukcevic, the wife of Pete; George Pirinsky; and myself.

For this convention, the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania also assigned Pauline Roth to help Mary Pirinsky set up the technical work for the convention.

At these meetings we hammered out Communist policies to be used at the American Slav Congress convention.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you say "We," you mean we of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. We of the nationality commission of the Communist Party. We discussed what resolutions would be presented at the convention; we discussed the names of the various party members who were to be proposed for offices in the American Slav Congress; we discussed statements that should be issued to the press in connection with the convention; we decided on the speakers who should be invited to the convention; set up all the committees and assigned Communist Party members to serve on the various committees such as resolutions, nominations, credentials, arrangements, and other convention committees.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was there anything that you of the nationality commission discussed at this policy-making meeting that was not realized at the American Slav Congress convention in September 1944?

Mr. CVETIC. No. We had absolute control of that convention. Every function of that convention, the directing of it, the carrying out of the policies, for the entire convention, was in the hands of Communist Party members. While there were non-Communists in attendance, the direction was in the hands of Communist Party members.

Mr. TAVENNER. Go to the next meeting of the nationality commission and tell us about that.

Mr. CVETIC. This meeting was held prior to the meeting I just reported in my testimony here, and that was in 1944 also. I met with the nationality commission of the Communist Party in Cleveland, Ohio. This meeting in Cleveland was held in the form of a caucus, or I should say several caucuses, during a meeting of the national committee of the American Slav Congress, in the hotel where this meeting was being held.

There were several caucuses held by the nationality commission of the Communist Party during this committee meeting, and these were led by Avrom Landy and attended by the following Communist Party members: George Pirinsky, Leo Bacich, Harry Justiz, Daniel Kasustchik, Victor Sharenkoff, Mike Hanusiak, myself, and several others.

Mr. TAVENNER. What other meetings of the national nationality commission did you attend, other than those you have referred to?

Mr. CVETIC. I would like to add to my testimony on this Cleveland meeting that Avrom Landy called these caucuses, and I acted as messenger for Avrom Landy to tell the other members that this meeting would be held.

Mr. TAVENNER. What other meetings, in addition to these two, did you attend?

Mr. CVETIC. I attended a meeting of the nationality commission at the office of the International Workers' Order in New York in the latter part of 1948. This meeting, which was called for the purpose of discussing policy in the American Slav Congress, the American Committee for Protection of Foreign-Born, and the Language Press, was called by Arnold Johnson, who at that time was head of the nationality commission for the Communist Party, having replaced Steve Nelson, who was sent to western Pennsylvania.

This meeting was attended by Abner Green, Israel Amter, George Pirinsky, Sam Milgrom, Harry Justiz, Leo Bacich, myself, and several others.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who are the members of the western Pennsylvania nationality commission?

Mr. CVETIC. When I first became a member of this commission, Max Weiss, who was district organizer of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania, was the head of this commission. I will add here that the district organizer of the Communist Party in a given district is also the head of the local nationality commission. He calls the meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. The district organizer of the Communist Party, whoever he may be, in western Pennsylvania, is automatically the chairman of the Nationality Commission for Western Pennsylvania; is that true?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. After Max Weiss left, Roy Hudson became district organizer in western Pennsylvania, and he became head of the local nationality commission.

In 1948 Steve Nelson was assigned as district organizer for western Pennsylvania, and since that time he has been chairman of the Nationality Commission for Western Pennsylvania and has called the meetings.

Shall I add the names of the members of the local commission to my testimony?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. I should like to have the names of the members of the Western Pennsylvania Nationality Commission.

Mr. CVETIC. These are the members of the Western Pennsylvania Nationality Commission with whom I have met, and on many occasions:

Croatian section: Anthony Minerich, Frank Borich, Arthur Bartl, Steve Mirkovich, Frank Tradej, Leo Fisher, Mary Sumrak, Anna Devunich, and Steve Devunich.

Serbian section: Milo Mamula, George Wuchinich, Mane Susujar, Charles Vuick, Drago Kosich, and Nick Baltich.

Slovak section: Calvin Brook, John Rusin, and John Zuskar.

Ukranian section: Mike Hanusiak.

Jewish section: Max Jenkins, Abe Strauss, and Jack Begler.

Polish section: Joe Rudiak, Paul Kluvo.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, are these people you have just named as being members of the Nationality Commission of Western Pennsylvania presently members of the nationality commission?

Mr. CVETIC. I would say everyone with the exception of Abe Strauss, who has been transferred to Cleveland, Ohio.

Mr. TAVENNER. You testified that in 1944, sometime in that year, you were told and directed to join and take an active part in the activities of the American Slav Congress in the Pittsburgh area; is that correct?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you first receive an office in the American Slav Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. I held a minor position with the American Slav Congress in western Pennsylvania from 1944 on. However, in 1947 the nationality commission directed that I be made the executive secretary. When these instructions were received, I was officially elected, at a meeting of the American Slav Congress executive committee, to serve as executive secretary.

Mr. TAVENNER. Prior to the time you were made executive secretary, had you been appointed a delegate to the American Slav Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. I went to the American Slav Congress in 1944 as a delegate from the State, County and Municipality Professional Workers. This is now the UOPWA.

Mr. TAVENNER. How were you appointed or selected as a delegate?

Mr. CVETIC. Again, in the nationality commission meetings I was asked to do my best to become a delegate to this convention. I went to my union, spoke to the Communist Party members in it, and said that when we had our next meeting they should propose from the floor that I be a delegate to the next convention. They proposed me and I was elected.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your union at that time?

Mr. CVETIC. It was the union within the United States Employment Service in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the name of the union?

Mr. CVETIC. Local 196 of the State, County and Municipality Professional Workers of America.

At this convention in 1944 which I attended, I was elected a member of the National Committee of the American Slav Congress and served on the national committee from that time until the present time, and I am still a member of the national committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated you were a member of the State, County and Municipality Professional Workers?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did you become a member of that union?

Mr. CVETIC. Some time in September 1941.

Mr. TAVENNER. Of what national organization was that an affiliate?

Mr. CVETIC. At that time it was an affiliate of the CIO. We functioned in the United States Employment Service in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know how that union was organized or formed, or had it been formed before you joined it?

Mr. CVETIC. It was formed before I joined it. However, I was elected organizer for the union after I joined upon instructions from the Communist Party. Some of the members, like Sidney Horwitz, sat down with me first and asked me to join. I was later asked to serve as organizer, and the Communist Party members supported me. That was before I became a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have told us as a result of the proposal on the floor of the convention from that union, you were elected to a position within the congress?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you explained fully how you happened to run for that position or not?

Mr. CVETIC. I mentioned before we planned at the nationality commission meetings—and we held many of them before the 1944 convention of the American Slav Congress—the work of the convention. At one of these nationality commission meetings it was decided I should be a member of the national committee, and my name was submitted at the convention and I became a member.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have before me a copy of this committee's report on the American Slav Congress and associated organizations, dated June 26, 1949, and opposite page 24 there is a reproduction of a photo-

graph, included in the Souvenir Journal of the Third American Slav Congress which was held in 1946, of the officers and nationality vice presidents of the American Slav Congress elected in the 1944 convention. Will you look at this photograph, please, examine it, and tell us which of the persons appearing in the photograph were proposed by the Communist Party for their respective offices, and not only those that were suggested by the Communist Party for those offices, but which of those were actually Communist Party members?

Mr. CVETIC. I will first name the Communist Party members. The Communist Party members proposed and elected were Zarko Buncich, Smeale Voydanoff, George Pirinsky, Michael Tkach, Daniel Kasustchik, and Boleslaw Gebert.

In addition to these Communist Party members we also supported Leo Krzycki, George Buban, Joseph Martinek. In regard to the latter three I don't know whether or not they are members of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Within the offices of the American Slav Congress was there a Communist Party cell that met independently of the executive committee of the American Slav Congress, and which dictated the policies to any extent of the American Slav Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The policy that the Communist Party carried into the American Slav Congress was handed down by the head of the nationality commission of the Communist Party. This person, while I was a member of the nationality commission, was either Avrom Landy, Steve Nelson, Arnold Johnson, or George Pirinsky. It was handed down first from one of these national figures to the national nationality commission, then to the local nationality commissions, and from there it was taken to the executive committee meetings of the American Slav Congress, both on a national and local level.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were the party members from the nationality commission of the Communist Party who carried out the Communist Party dictates with reference to the policies to be adopted by the American Slav Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. George Pirinsky, Steve Krall, Charles Muzil, Harry Justiz, Leo Bacich. These are all Communist Party members, because I have attended nationality commission meetings of the Communist Party with them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were the majority of the members of the nationality commission of the Communist Party officers or directors of the American Slav Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I would say the majority of the members of the nationality commission were either office holders, members of the national committee, or members of the executive committee of the American Slav Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe you mentioned Boleslaw Gebert as one whose name appears in the paper I have shown you?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is he a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. You knew him as a party member?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, the staff has information that Boleslaw Gebert was arrested and held for deportation as far back as

February 1933. While he was never deported, he fled to Poland on the *Batory* on August 16, 1947. He is now Polish Trade Union delegate to the United Nations.

Mr. Cvetic, you referred also to the name of George Wuchinich. Do you know him as a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you know that?

Mr. CVETIC. Three or four years ago I was visiting in New York with George Wuchinich, and we met with Steve Nelson to discuss policy regarding the American Slav Congress. We took a walk with Steve Nelson, and in the course of the conversation Steve Nelson told George Wuchinich that he should be a member of the Communist Party, and after a little talk between Steve and George and myself, George Wuchinich asked Steve Nelson how he could join.

"Well," Steve said, "You should be one of the members at large because of your importance, and not a card-carrying member." He said, "As a matter of fact, even Matt here should not know you are a member of the party. So from now on you will be a Communist Party member, but keep it to yourself. Only the three of us will know."

Since that time, George Wuchinich has become a member of the McKeesport branch in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. What business did you and George Wuchinich have in New York when you went there and met with Steve Nelson?

Mr. CVETIC. I went there to discuss American Slav policy with George Pirinsky, and George Wuchinich was with me. While we were there we saw Steve Nelson. We met him near the office of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. What position did Wuchinich at that time have in the American Slav Congress in western Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. At that time he was active in some veteran organization, and he began working with me in the American Slav Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he later succeed you as executive secretary of the American Slav Congress in western Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The way this came about, Roy Hudson, who was the district organizer for the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania, asked me to meet with him and George Wuchinich at the YMCA in Pittsburgh. We had lunch there. At that time Roy Hudson asked if I would be willing to withdraw as executive secretary so George Wuchinich could succeed me. Roy said: "Since George Wuchinich is a veteran, he would not be subject to attack." So I agreed to step aside.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, on June 26, 1949, as I indicated a while ago, the Committee on Un-American Activities released a report on the American Slav Congress. Then the American Slav Congress of western Pennsylvania released the following statement:

At a special meeting today, the executive board of the American Slav Congress of western Pennsylvania, issued the following statement:

"We condemn the House Un-American Activities Committee for its smears against our organization. This most recent attack, one of many in the past 2 years, is directed less against us than it is against all people, and in particular the Slavic Americans who work in the mills and mines.

"We remind Mr. John Wood, present committee chairman, just as we did his predecessors, Messrs. Rankin and Thomas, that we have always supported the best interests of the American people on every occasion.

"Our organization in the past war was in the front line fighting to defend our country in the armed forces, as well as in industry. Several million sons and daughters of Slavic-Americans served in the Army, Navy, and Air Force, the greatest single group of any being the 1,000,000 Polish-Americans.

"Today we are in the front line for peace and security—for the principles outlined by the late President Roosevelt in his grand design of friendship with all nations of the world including the Soviet Union.

"We have not changed.

"Look at the record of this Un-American Committee, which is rightly named. During the war Messrs. Thomas and Dies spoke at bundist meetings when our country was in mortal danger.

"Traitors are pointing the finger at patriots, today.

"Our record is open and clear. We stand for peace, progress, and security—one world at peace."

That is signed Joseph Rudiak, president; Matthew Cvetic, secretary. Would you tell us how this statement came to be drafted and drawn and signed?

MR. CVETIC. Yes. This statement was drafted after a meeting between Steve Nelson, George Wuchinich, and myself. The actual statement was drafted by George Wuchinich.

MR. TAVENNER. What prompted the drafting of the statement?

MR. CVETIC. It wasn't quite a question of prompting. We met almost daily with Steve Nelson since he came to Pittsburgh, and as these attacks on the Communist Party would come out, we would discuss what to do. Once it would be to get out a statement answering the House Un-American Activities Committee, and many of these answers would be in the nature of character assassinations; the next time it would be to discuss, maybe the mine strike and what the American Slav Congress would do in the mine strike, and so on.

MR. TAVENNER. In other words, the answer given by the American Slav Congress was actually prepared by the Communist Party?

MR. CVETIC. I can say this: Steve Nelson would come in the offices of the American Slav Congress in Pittsburgh and meet with us just about daily, or meet with us across the street at Tambellini's.

MR. TAVENNER. And that statement of the American Slav Congress was the Communist Party line on that subject?

MR. CVETIC. That is correct.

MR. TAVENNER. At the present time, who are the officers of the American Slav Congress for western Pennsylvania?

MR. CVETIC. At the present time Joseph Rudiak is chairman and I am secretary-treasurer.

MR. TAVENNER. You are secretary-treasurer?

MR. CVETIC. Yes.

MR. WOOD. How much funds have you got?

I notice in this statement practically every former chairman of this committee was attacked. I wonder why they didn't go further and attack the present chairman?

MR. CVETIC. I think the reason for that is that in the last few months we haven't been able to raise many funds, and since I have become secretary I haven't been too active, especially in the last 8 or 10 months, so maybe that is the reason there haven't been too many attacks in the last 8 or 10 months.

MR. WOOD. Is the Communist Party line of smearing members of this committee carried into other Communist-front organizations as it was carried into the American Slav Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. Oh, yes. I don't have all my notes here, but I have attended conferences of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born and other front organizations, and the major part of the conferences was taken up smearing the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover, the House Un-American Activities Committee, and individual chairmen of this committee.

Mr. KEARNEY. In other words, you smeared everybody who didn't agree with you?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. I read the Pittsburgh newspapers this morning, and I am getting a little of that myself.

Mr. TAVENNER. I will ask you additional questions about these other Communist-front organizations when we arrive at that stage of your testimony. You spoke of Joseph Rudiak. He was one of those who signed that statement?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. He is a member now.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he a member at the time that answer to this committee was made?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you know him to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. I have attended many policy-making meetings of the Communist Party with Joseph Rudiak.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, you spoke at length about the American Slav Congress. What other organizations does the Communist Party control in your area?

Mr. CVETIC. The front organizations that the Communist Party actually has control of in the Pittsburgh area are the following: The Labor Press Committee; the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born; the International Workers' Order; Civil Rights Congress; Progressive Party in Pittsburgh; Croatian Council; Serb Vidovdan Council; and Language Press, 1916 East Street, Pittsburgh.

In addition, there are organizations where we have some influence.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mentioned the Croatian Council. Is that the full name of that organization?

Mr. CVETIC. No. It is the National Council of Americans of Croatian Descent.

Mr. TAVENNER. Could you list for us also organizations which the Communist Party at one time controlled, but which have since been dissolved or abandoned?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, two; American Committee for Yugoslav Relief and the United Committee of South Slavic Americans, and I have been active in both, through the Nationality Commission of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. In other words, the Communist Party controlled them through the means you have mentioned?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a member of the Labor Press Committee?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. What were the functions of the Labor Press Committee?

Mr. CVETIC. The Labor Press Committee in western Pennsylvania was a front committee set up by the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania for the specific purpose of organizing affairs such as picnics, raffles, and other money-raising activities for the Communist Party and for the Sunday and Daily Worker.

Mr. TAVENNER. They worked actively in obtaining subscribers for the Daily and Sunday Worker?

Mr. CVETIC. Our activity was to raise money for the Sunday and Daily Worker. We were a money-raising group.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you give us some idea of the financial assistance the Labor Press Committee gave the Daily Worker or Sunday Worker through the activity of that committee?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. We were instrumental several times in raising \$8,000 or \$10,000 in western Pennsylvania for the Daily and Sunday Worker through raffles and picnics and so forth. We set up this committee in the Communist Party office, with Communist Party members as members of the committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. This \$8,000 or \$10,000 you raised was raised over what period of time?

Mr. CVETIC. A 1-year period. One year we raised around \$8,000 or \$10,000. Another year we raised around \$7,000. Last year we raised \$3,000 or \$4,000. I would say in about 5 years we raised between \$25,000 and \$30,000 through this committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. How was it distributed?

Mr. CVETIC. It was prorated. Some went to the national office, some to the district office, and some to the Daily and Sunday Worker.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you hold an office on this committee?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. In the past 5 years I have served as chairman and as secretary of this committee.

(Representative Wood leaves and Representative McSweeney assumes chair.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you give us the names of other known Communist Party members who have served on the Labor Press Committee, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. Mike Hanusiak, Ben Careathers, Pat Cush, Tom Fitzpatrick.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who is Tom Fitzpatrick?

Mr. CVETIC. He is a member of the United Electrical Workers in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he at one time president of district 6 of the UE?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; that is the same Tom Fitzpatrick.

Mr. TAVENNER. The same man?

Mr. CVETIC. The same man.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you know these persons were members of the Communist Party, including Tom Fitzpatrick?

Mr. CVETIC. I have attended Communist Party meetings with these individuals many times, and when I say Communist Party meetings I am not talking about mass rallies where you would see sometimes Communist Party sympathizers; I am talking about meetings called only for Communist Party members, either district committee meetings, meetings of top functionaries, meetings of the finance committee of the Communist Party, and so on.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Tom Fitzpatrick attend any meetings of the type you have described?

Mr. CVETIC. Tom Fitzpatrick at one time was a member of the district committee of the Communist Party, and I have seen him at many district committee meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. During what period of time? Can you be more specific about the period of time?

Mr. CVETIC. I would say during the last 6 years at various times I have attended Communist Party meetings with Tom Fitzpatrick. Tom Fitzpatrick often made reports on the activities of the Communist Party members in UE, and reported the progress they were making.

Mr. TAVENNER. He made reports of that kind at meetings you attended?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were his reports encouraging as to the advancement of communism in the UE?

Mr. CVETIC. I guess at times they were encouraging. Irrespective of how encouraging the reports were, the Communist Party conclusions at every district committee meeting always lined out more work for the members, irrespective of whether the reports were encouraging or discouraging. Sometimes they were a criticism of the report.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, the Tom Fitzpatrick just mentioned by Mr. Cvetic was a witness before this committee on August 10, 1949, at which time he refused to answer questions regarding his affiliations with the Communist Party, which you will probably recall.

Mr. Cvetic, you mentioned Pat Cush. Tell us something about him. Is he a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. He is one of the oldest members of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania, and at present is principally used as a fronter more than anything else. He is not active at the present time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is his full name Emmett Patrick Cush?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who is Ben Careathers?

Mr. CVETIC. Ben Careathers heads the Negro commission of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is his occupation; do you know?

Mr. CVETIC. Formerly he operated a store in the Hill district in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. What kind of store was it?

Mr. CVETIC. A confectionery store, and he also sold Communist Party books and literature there. I do know this, he was partially subsidized in his work as head of the Negro commission. I don't know to what extent.

Mr. TAVENNER. By "subsidized," you mean he was paid something for the effort he was putting in for the advancement of communism?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. You spoke about the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born as being one of those organizations controlled by the Communist Party. Were you ever a member of that organization?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I was, and still am a member of the national board, so elected at the last two conferences.

Mr. TAVENNER. You are a member of the national board of that organization?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the function of this committee?

Mr. CVETIC. This committee, for the most part, carried on legal defense for Communist Party members who were arrested for deportation. When I say for Communist Party members, at a meeting Abner Green once told me that 66 of the 67 persons arrested for deportation up to that time were Communist Party members. He told me that in a little coffee klatch. And the other person, whom they did not defend, had some reason other than political why he was being deported, and the committee did not interest themselves in his welfare.

Mr. TAVENNER. So that this organization, known as the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, actually meant for the protection of foreign-born Communists?

Mr. CVETIC. I would say so. All the pamphlets and bulletins of theirs which I secured, and which I turned over to the FBI, were defending some Communist. They were not interested in a foreign-born unless he was a Communist. If you were a Communist and arrested for deportation, they immediately went to your defense and raised funds for you.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you recall any instance in which this American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born protected any foreign-born person who was not a Communist, or endeavored to protect him?

Mr. CVETIC. I recall of no such instance. We raised a lot of money for Gerhart Eisler; we raised money for George Pirinsky; and recently we raised money for Frank Borich. I don't know what the status of his case is.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us about your experience in raising money for that organization.

Mr. CVETIC. Money for that organization was usually raised by mass rallies, selling booklets and pamphlets, and so on. We would hold agitational meetings, and at these meetings we would stress the importance of the attack on the foreign-born, and that the immigration authorities are trying to deport all the foreign-born, and we would be able to raise some money out of the people who attended the meetings.

I would like to add this, because I think it is important: I mentioned I attended many conferences and meetings of this committee. Another purpose that it served was as an agitational body. We distributed leaflets and booklets, most of which attacked the immigration authorities, FBI, House Un-American Activities Committee, and so on.

Mr. TAVENNER. So, it was the same old party line brought down through Communist sources and channels to this organization known as the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify for the committee other members of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Recently we have set up an American Yugoslav Defense Committee. This is a subcommittee of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born. I was made chairman of this com-

mittee; Mary Borich was made secretary, and Mane Susnjar was made treasurer.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say that is a new organization?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. We just organized it about 3 months ago.

Mr. TAVENNER. How is it getting along?

Mr. CVETIC. I don't know. We raised about \$250 up until the day I left Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Proceed with the purposes and functions of that new organization.

Mr. CVETIC. The main purpose of this particular organization was to defend Communist Party members of Yugoslav descent being held for deportation. At the most recent meeting of the committee we considered transferring the center of this committee to New York City, because we felt they could build it more rapidly.

Mr. TAVENNER. You testified that you are a member of the national board of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you name other members of the national board of the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born?

Mr. CVETIC. Well, I know Abner Green, the executive secretary, very well, as a member of the Communist Party. As a matter of fact, on one occasion he sent me a letter, which I submitted to the FBI, asking me to arrange a meeting with Steve Nelson for him. Abner Green did attend meetings of the Communist Party.

I know M. Y. Steinberg, of Pittsburgh, chairman of the panel on legal defense, to be a member of the Communist Party, because I have attended Communist Party meetings with Mr. Steinberg in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. When were you elected to the national board of this organization?

Mr. CVETIC. I was elected at the last two conferences. The most recent was in December 1949. It was held in Detroit.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mentioned the International Workers' Order as another one of these organizations that was under the control of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a member of that organization?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you hold any position or office in it?

Mr. CVETIC. No; I didn't.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were there known Communist Party members in that organization; that is, known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. I would rather answer by saying who were the known Communist Party organizers in the Pittsburgh area who held office in the organization: Nick Baltich; Mike Hanusiak; Helen Vrabel, she is now in New York; Steve Mirokovich, and John Zuskar.

Mr. TAVENNER. They were Communist Party members?

Mr. CVETIC. All of those I mentioned; yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Does the International Workers' Order give insurance benefits to its members?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us the functions of that organization.

Mr. CVETIC. Well, it is an insurance organization built on a fraternal basis. As I say, all the organizers I ever met are Communist Party members. Some of the meetings I attended, after the business of collecting dues and so on was through, the organizer, if he was in the district, would meet with the members and the meeting would not be adjourned, and talk on some topic that the Communist Party wanted taken into that particular branch of the IWO.

Mr. TAVENNER. What attitude did the Communist Party take toward having its members join that organization?

Mr. CVETIC. While it was not a prerequisite, they expected you to become a member and become active in the IWO.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you acquainted with the national organizers of that organization?

Mr. CVETIC. I met some of the officers and organizers, and, again, every one I met were Communist Party members. I mentioned Leo Bacich. I will mention now for the first time John Middleton. And in previous testimony I mentioned some officers and national organizers of the IWO.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know anything about funds of this organization that have built up as a reserve in its insurance fund?

Mr. CVETIC. In what way do you mean?

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know the amount?

Mr. CVETIC. Around 26 million dollars. I don't know the exact amount. I know they have quite a big reserve.

Mr. TAVENNER. Has that organization aided in a financial way any of the operations of the Communist Party, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. One way that they do help is by taking large space ads in the Communist Party-controlled newspapers. Another way is, when there are publications for any conventions or conferences they take large ads in those publications.

Once when I was ready to go to New York to attend a meeting of the Nationality Commission, I met with Steve Nelson in Pittsburgh the day before I left, and he said to me:

When you get to New York get hold of Sam Milgrom and ask him if he can let you have a thousand dollars, that we need it down here.

When I got to New York I mentioned it to Sam Milgrom, who is an officer of the IWO, and he said he would take it up, but he didn't give me the money. Whether the money got to Pittsburgh or not, I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. What position did Sam Milgrom hold in the IWO?

Mr. CVETIC. I don't know his exact position, but he worked in the offices of the IWO in New York.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is he a Communist Party member?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I attended Communist Party meetings with Sam Milgrom.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, information is in the files of this committee that the Sam Milgrom just mentioned by Mr. Cvetic was arrested in June 1932 on a warrant issued by the Secretary of Labor. A warrant of deportation was issued, as amended, on August 29, 1935, to provide for the deportation of this individual to the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union has never authorized the return of this individual, and he remains in this country as a registered alien.

Mr. Chairman, we are at a point now of going to the Civil Rights Congress. It would probably be a mistake to break in the middle of it. There is one thing I would like to ask the witness, in any event.

Mr. McSWEENEY. Very well.

Mr. TAVENNER. You spoke of the Civil Rights Congress as being another one of the organizations over which the Communist Party exercised control. Were you a member of it?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ever hold office in it?

Mr. CVETIC. I was a member of the Civil Rights Congress in Pittsburgh and a member of the executive committee there. As a matter of fact, I helped organize the Civil Rights Congress there. This Civil Rights Congress in Pittsburgh was set up after three or four preliminary meetings called by the district organizer of the Communist Party. These meetings were held in Hyman Schlessinger's office.

Mr. TAVENNER. At those meetings, were plans made for the organization of the Civil Rights Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Could you identify for us the present officers of the Civil Rights Congress in the Pittsburgh area who are known to you as members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Milo Mamula is the secretary in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is he a lawyer?

Mr. CVETIC. No. He runs a travel agency. One of the former secretaries was Theresa Turner, the wife of Andy Onda. She is a Communist Party member and he is also a Communist Party member, responsible for steel concentration work in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. I will ask you more about the steel concentration work later. What is the position held by Andy Onda?

Mr. CVETIC. He is in charge of steel concentration in western Pennsylvania for the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you named all the officers of the Civil Rights Congress in the Pittsburgh area at this time who are known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. No. Miriam Schultz served as secretary at one time. And Tom Quinn was a member of the executive committee and served as chairman of this committee. M. Y. Steinberg and Ben Careathers were also members. The Civil Rights Congress in Pittsburgh has about the same participants as the Labor Press Committee. It functions with about a half-dozen assigned Communist Party members. I didn't mention myself. I was a member of this committee, too.

Mr. McSWEENEY. I want to ask one question interesting to me as an old school teacher. You said you held a meeting in the Fifth Avenue School. Was it announced as a Communist Party meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. McSWEENEY. And the Board of Education permitted it?

Mr. CVETIC. Oh, yes. It was advertised as a Communist Party meeting.

Mr. McSWEENEY. That is a rather unusual departure.

Mr. CVETIC. We held Communist Party meetings in Pittsburgh, that is, mass rallies, at the Fifth Avenue School and at the A. Leo Wehl School, and in the North Side Carnegie Library.

Mr. McSWEENEY. Did you do it in other cities that you recall?

Mr. CVETIC. I was on most of the arrangements in western Pennsylvania. Our district committee met many times in the lecture room of the North Side Carnegie Library in Pittsburgh. Another place we met was the Knights of Pythias Hall, North Side.

One of the last meetings I attended, which was actually a meeting of the top Communist functionaries to discuss the Sunday and Daily Worker, was in the Fort Pitt Hotel, but that was advertised as a labor committee meeting. I was doorman and my instructions were not to let anybody in but Communist Party members.

Mr. McSWEENEY. That is carrying democracy pretty far to permit the holding of Communist Party meetings in the schools.

Mr. TAVENNER. In your earlier testimony you referred to Israel Amter. The committee files, while they contain many references to Communist participations on his part, contain no reference to participations by him since the middle of 1948. The reason for this was understood by the staff to be because of his death, but there is no official record in our file of his death. Do you know, or is it your understanding, that he is now living or is he deceased?

Mr. CVETIC. I will have to answer that I have no absolute knowledge or proof that he is either living or dead. I haven't had contact with him since the meeting of the IWO in New York, and I do not have knowledge that he is deceased.

Mr. McSWEENEY. The committee will recess until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

(Thereupon, at 4:30 p. m. on Tuesday, February 21, 1950, a recess was taken until 10 a. m. on Wednesday, February 22, 1950.)

EXPOSÉ OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

BASED UPON TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC (UNDERCOVER AGENT)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1950

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D. C.

PUBLIC HEARING

MORNING SESSION

The subcommittee met, pursuant to adjournment, at 10 a. m. in room 226, Old House Office Building, Washington, D. C., Hon. Francis E. Walter presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives John S. Wood (arriving as indicated), Francis E. Walter, John McSweeney, and Bernard W. Kearney (arriving as indicated).

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., counsel; Louis J. Russell, senior investigator; Donald T. Appell, William A. Wheeler, and Courtney Owens, investigators; John W. Carrington, clerk; Benjamin Mandel, director of research; and A. S. Poore, editor.

Mr. WALTER. The committee will come to order.

Mr. Cvetic has been sworn. You may proceed.

TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, we were talking yesterday about the American Committee for Protection of the Foreign Born. We have a letterhead here bearing the date December 11, 1948, which gives the names of the chairman and certain officers and sponsors, but it does not give the names of the directors of that organization. Will you look at it?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. You testified yesterday about the names of some of the directors?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. And those persons named by you were members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know why the names of the directors were left off the letterhead?

Mr. CVETIC. I couldn't give any reason why, because after this conference a letter was sent out by the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born listing the elected board members.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, are you a member of the Progressive Party in Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I am.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have listed the organizations in western Pennsylvania which you claimed were under the control of the Communist Party, and among them you listed the Progressive Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you explain the influence that the Communist Party has in the Progressive Party in western Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I will be glad to do that. I will speak for western Pennsylvania where I was a member of the committee of the Progressive Party.

In western Pennsylvania the Communist Party has functioning what is known as a political commission, which is responsible for carrying the Communist Party line into the Progressive Party. This commission's function is the same as the nationality commission or the Negro commission. In other words, members of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania who have been assigned to work in the Progressive Party meet regularly to discuss the policies and the line that is to be taken into the Progressive Party.

At one time—and this was prior to the 1948 elections—Dave Grant, Communist Party organizer in western Pennsylvania, and who is now organizing for the Communist Party in the United Electrical Workers' cell of the Communist Party—I want to point out he is not an organizer for the United Electrical Workers, but for the Communist Party in the United Electrical Workers' cell of the Communist Party—headed this political commission. I know that because I met with him regularly to discuss policy. At the present time the commission is headed by Steve Nelson, who is the district organizer of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated there was a political commission that endeavored to determine the policy of the Progressive Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. At the inception of the organization of the Progressive Party, what part did the Communist Party play?

Mr. CVETIC. The first knowledge I had that we were going to try to organize a new party in the United States was back in 1946, the fall or winter of 1946. William Z. Foster came to Pittsburgh and addressed a mass meeting called by the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania.

At this time the United States was demobilized after the war, and the two high lights of William Z. Foster's speech were, he started attacking the warmakers in the United States, and made statements to the effect, "they will never beat down the Soviet Union, and so on, so they might as well forget about it."

(Representative Kearney enters hearing room.)

Mr. WALTER. Will you fix the date?

Mr. CVETIC. In the fall or winter of 1946. It was the year before we organized the Presidential campaigns for 1948. It could have been in November or December.

The second high light of William Z. Foster's speech was, he stressed the importance of building a new people's party in the United States, and said that the Communist Party should work with an aim to becoming part of this new people's party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Then this political commission of the Communist Party was formed?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were the members of that political commission?

Mr. CVETIC. I mentioned Dave Grant and Steve Nelson, who headed this commission at one time. In addition to them, Alex Wright, who is now director of the Progressive Party in Pittsburgh, was head of this commission. George Wuchinich was a member of this commission. Milo Mamula was a member of this commission. M. Y. Steinberg was also a member of this commission. Pearl Griffin, who is working now as secretary in the Progressive Party office in Pittsburgh, was a member of this commission. These are some of the members.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did the members of that political commission receive instructions from any source as to their connection with the Progressive Party?

Mr. CVETIC. At meetings of the district committee of the Communist Party, the Progressive Party, once it was organized, was always on the agenda, and blanket instructions were issued to all Communist Party members to join the Progressive Party. Then when the Progressive Party was organized, the line was at that time and is still at the present time, that the Progressive Party is one of our big concentration points.

Take, for example, in western Pennsylvania today, at the most recent functionary meeting of the Communist Party instructions were issued to everybody to register as members of the Progressive Party. I don't know how successful they have been. I know I didn't take time to register, but I know some Communist Party members did register as a result of those instructions.

Mr. WALTER. Would you say the Communists in the area with which you are acquainted are all members of the Progressive Party?

Mr. CVETIC. We only started registering this year because we were not a party on the ballot before, but I would say yes, they are all members of the Progressive Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know the approximate membership of the Progressive Party in western Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. At the last election we voted 4,000 votes. I would say that this would represent about the Progressive Party strength in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the approximate membership of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania, if you know?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I know. At the last report given by the district secretary of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania, his figures—and these are his figures—were approximately 550 members.

Mr. WALTER. Is a list kept of the membership in the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. I testified yesterday that since 1948 all lists and records were ordered destroyed by the Communist Party for security reasons.

Mr. WALTER. Were they actually destroyed?

Mr. CVETIC. Membership cards were ordered destroyed. Office records were destroyed. The club secretaries of the Communist Party were ordered not to keep any written records.

For example, this year when we registered a membership we didn't use any names, just numbers. When I registered the members in my club, instead of saying, for example, that I am a member, and use my name Matthew Cvetic, I would use No. 1 and give my occupation, age, and so on. No party cards were issued.

Mr. WALTER. Where were the records destroyed?

Mr. CVETIC. My own records I turned over to the FBI. In the Communist Party office I presume some were burned, but I had no part in destroying these records or anything.

Mr. WALTER. You didn't witness their destruction?

Mr. CVETIC. I did not.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated you turned your records over to the FBI?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you on pay by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for your services in your undercover work?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I was a paid undercover agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mr. TAVENNER. What officers of the Progressive Party in western Pennsylvania are members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Well, I mentioned Alex Wright and Pearl Griffin, who are now the officers there. Some of the other members of the Progressive Party who are Communist Party members and active on the commission are Nick Lazaris, who is an organizer for the Hotel and Restaurant Workers; I also mentioned Milo Mamula and George Wuchinich before.

Mr. WALTER. Who conducted the registration of the party members?

Mr. CVETIC. That is always in the hands of the district secretary. He issues the instructions. At the present time the instructions go to the section secretaries of the sections.

Mr. WALTER. Who is the district secretary?

Mr. CVETIC. William Albertson.

Mr. WALTER. And do you know the names of the section secretaries?

Mr. CVETIC. Not all of them. In the section I belong to, John Vidmar was the section secretary. He would get the instructions from William Albertson. Then Vidmar would call a meeting of the section committee. I was a member of the section committee by virtue of the fact I was organizer for one of the sections.

Mr. WALTER. Have you given us the names of the section committee?

Mr. CVETIC. I gave the names, but not as the section committee. I can go into that if you wish me to.

Mr. WALTER. Yes. What I am trying to develop is the exact organization.

Mr. CVETIC. In the section of which I was a member, there was John Vidmar. He was the secretary. Joe Mankin was the chairman of the section, or the organizer.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you spell that name, please?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. M-a-n-k-i-n. In addition to being the organizer for this section, he was also assigned to operate the cell of the Communist Party in the hotel and restaurant workers.

Then there was Jack Sartisky. He was the head of the UE cell, the united electrical workers cell, of the Communist Party in the North Side. He was a member of the section committee.

Then there was Daisy Lolich Bartl. She was a member. And Hamp Golden, who was in charge of the cell of the Communist Party in the Heinz Co. plant, was a member of the section committee.

The other member was Arthur Bartl, and he was in charge of the cell of the Communist Party at the Croatian Press at 1916 East Street. This was the section committee.

Mr. KEARNEY. Are they all members now?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I attended meetings with them as late as last October or November.

Mr. WALTER. I notice in the names you mention there are a large number of foreign names. Do you know whether or not all those people are American citizens?

Mr. CVETIC. I testified yesterday some were not. Some were cited for deportation in the past. Counsel here did develop that.

Mr. WALTER. Excuse me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, did you attend any meetings of the progressive committee within the Communist Party at which policy was discussed?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I sat in many policy-making meetings in the Communist Party where policy in the Progressive Party was discussed. I mentioned before that at every functionary or district committee meeting in 1948, the Progressive Party was discussed, and the Progressive Party was one of the main things on the agenda of Communist Party meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you also have conferences with members of the Progressive Party, regardless of whether or not they may have been Communists, on political matters?

Mr. CVETIC. You mean did I ever meet with any of them on policy?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. On a national basis?

Mr. TAVENNER. In western Pennsylvania.

Mr. CVETIC. In western Pennsylvania the Progressive Party was not one of my main responsibilities. I was just expected to participate as a member and try to organize Progressive Party activity in Lawrenceville, where I was supposed to have lived.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you at any time have occasion to meet with any members of the Progressive Party on a national level?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I did, and I would like to tell the committee here about a meeting I attended in 1947. This was on November 11, 1947. I met with Beany Baldwin, who was chairing the campaign for the Progressive Party; with Henry Wallace, the Progressive Party Presidential candidate; and with George Wuchinich, to discuss the potential of Slav vote in western Pennsylvania.

(Representative Wood enters hearing room.)

Mr. CVETIC (continuing). This meeting was held in Henry Wallace's room at the Schenley Hotel in Pittsburgh the day after Henry Wallace spoke at a mass rally in Pittsburgh.

At this meeting Mr. Wallace and Mr. Baldwin questioned George Wuchinich and myself at length for the purpose of ascertaining the number of Slav votes that we felt we could deliver for a Presidential candidate in our capacity as officers of the American Slav Congress.

I want to point out that at this time when we met with Henry Wallace, both Mr. Wuchinich and myself were known Communist Party leaders in Pittsburgh.

Mr. WALTER. Did you tell Mr. Wallace you were Communist Party members?

Mr. CVETIC. The question was not raised, but we were in a big exposé in the Pittsburgh press, and both George Wuchinich and myself were known Communist Party leaders in Pittsburgh.

Mr. WALTER. You are assuming Mr. Wallace and Mr. Baldwin knew of your Communist Party activities?

Mr. CVETIC. I am assuming they were men of intelligence. The local Progressive Party leaders knew we were Communist Party members.

Mr. WALTER. Who were they?

Mr. CVETIC. At that time, Mr. Ficher, F-i-c-h-e-r, his first name skips me for the moment, was the organizer, and Virginia Seymour also made arrangements for the Progressive Party.

Mr. WALTER. And they were well-known Communists?

Mr. CVETIC. No; not those two. Wuchinich and I were. However, Mr. Ficher and Virginia Seymour met with Dave Grant and myself on numerous occasions to discuss policy.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have previously testified that Wuchinich was a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the two of you were serving, at the time of this conference, in your capacity as officials of the American Slav Congress. Can you identify for the committee any other individuals known to you to be members of the Communist Party who were active in Progressive Party circles in western Pennsylvania at that time?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Jack Sartisky, who is the UE organizer for the Communist Party in Pittsburgh, was quite active in the Progressive Party in that campaign.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you spell it?

Mr. CVETIC. Sa-r-t-i-s-k-y. And George Nichols, N-i-c-h-o-l-s, who is the hiring agent for the hotel and restaurant workers union in Pittsburgh, was quite active. Then the people from the Language Press with whom I had worked were also active in the Progressive Party. I have mentioned all their names before, and I don't know if I should repeat them here.

Mr. TAVENNER. No. You mentioned in your earlier testimony that the Croatian Council was one of those groups which was controlled by the Communist Party, did you not?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you a member of the Croatian Council?

Mr. CVETIC. No; I was not. I am of Slovene descent and I was a member of the Slovenian Council. However, I have, in nationality commission meetings, met with Croatian Council members.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify known Communist Party members who are officers of or exercise control over the Croatian Council?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The council is broken down into two councils—the National Council of Americans of Croatian Descent, and in addition there is the Federation of American Croatian Women. The persons who control those organizations out of Pittsburgh are Frank Borich, secretary of the National Council of Americans of Croatian Descent. The person responsible for the other council I mentioned is Anna Devunich.

Frank Borich was arrested recently on deportation proceedings; because he is not a citizen, and just before I left Pittsburgh we were trying to raise funds to defend Frank Borich.

Mr. TAVENNER. The Serbian Council was another group you testified earlier was under the control of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The full name is Serbian Vidovdan Congress. That is controlled by the Communist Nationality Commission.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify known Communist Party members who are officers of or exercise control over the Serbian Vidovdan Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The members of the nationality commission are also members of the Serbian Vidovdan Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you given their names?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; Nick Baltich, Mane Susnar, Charles Vuick, and Daisy Lolich Bartl.

The meetings and planning for this particular counsel were held at 1916 East Street.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the significance of that location?

Mr. CVETIC. That is the office of the Language Press in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. The Language Press in Pittsburgh was also claimed by you to be one of those groups which was under the control of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell us how that organization functions?

Mr. CVETIC. You mean the Language Press?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. The Language Press is a term used to designate the office, the editorial staff, and the printing company of the Communist-controlled newspapers at 1916 East Street. The entire editorial staff of these newspapers are members of the Communist Party and members of the nationality commission of the Communist Party. I testified yesterday that the policy of these newspapers is discussed and decided at nationality commission meetings of the Communist Party, which, at the present time, are called by Steve Nelson, the district organizer.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the position of Arnold Johnson with regard to that nationality commission?

Mr. CVETIC. Steve Nelson is the local nationality commission head. Arnold Johnson is the national head and calls meetings with regard to a national party change.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are the editors of these publications members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; all the editors of these publications are members of the Communist Party, every one of them, and I am talking about the editorial staff. This has nothing to do with the print shop. While there are one or two members of the Communist Party in the print

shop, to become a member of the editorial staff you are assigned there by the nationality commission of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have spoken of Leo Fisher several times in connection with the Language Press. What is his function?

Mr. CVETIC. He is the manager of the American Progressive Printing Co., at 1916 East Street. This company which is located there prints the newspapers and also does job printing.

Mr. TAVENNER. We have covered all of these various organizations you listed as being under the control of the Communist Party. Before proceeding to another subject, have you identified the various papers which are published by this Language Press, and if you have not, will you do so now?

Mr. CVETIC. I will identify them now. The newspapers of this Language Press, combined, are: Narodni Glasnik; Narodny Noviny; and Slobodna Rec. In the order that I listed these, the first is the Croatian language press; the second is the Slovak language press; and the third is the Serbian press.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether the name of the second paper that you mentioned, Narodny Noviny, has been changed to Ludovy, L-u-d-o-v-y?

Mr. CVETIC. Originally this paper was called Ludovy Dennik, then it was changed to Ludovy Novine, spelled N-o-v-i-n-e or N-o-v-i-n-y.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you give us the spelling of those names over again?

Mr. CVETIC. The first is N-a-r-o-d-n-i G-l-a-s-n-i-k.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is two words?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Spell the first word.

Mr. CVETIC. N-a-r-o-d-n-i.

Mr. TAVENNER. Now spell the second word.

Mr. CVETIC. G-l-a-s-n-i-k.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is what press?

Mr. CVETIC. Croatian press.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the next?

Mr. CVETIC. L-u-d-o-v-y.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is one word?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, and the second word is N-o-v-i-n-e or N-o-v-i-n-y.

Mr. TAVENNER. What nationality is that publication?

Mr. CVETIC. Slovak.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the third?

Mr. CVETIC. S-l-o-b-o-d-n-a, that is one word, and the second word is R-e-c, and that is the Serbian press.

In addition to these newspapers they also publish an annual calendar; that is, each of these newspapers publishes an annual calendar or almanac, and this also carries the Communist Party line.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, the committee is desirous of knowing the extent to which the Communist Party has infiltrated the basic industries of our country. Realizing that Pittsburgh is a nerve center of our industrial-production area, can you tell us what degree of success the Communist Party has met in Pittsburgh, and identify for us individuals who are prominent in the Communist movement within the basic industries in the Pittsburgh area?

(Representative Wood leaves hearing room.)

Mr. CVETIC. The national board of the Communist Party, at its 1945 convention, established western Pennsylvania as a steel concentration area.

At this convention western Pennsylvania was set up as one of the main concentration areas for Communist Party activity and infiltration of the steel plants in that area.

To carry out and facilitate the work of Communist Party members in western Pennsylvania, the Communist Party set up a steel commission within the framework of the Communist Party, which met regularly to discuss the policy, the program, and the line of the Communist Party which was to be carried into the steel mills in that area.

After the 1945 national convention of the Communist Party, this commission was headed by Roy Hudson, who was assigned as the district organizer in western Pennsylvania. It met regularly, either in the office of the Communist Party in the Bakewell Building, or on the third floor of 440 Wood Street at that time.

The key concentration areas at this time—and the way I ascertained these key concentration areas was through reports which were made at district committee meetings in western Pennsylvania—the key concentration points in 1945 after the national convention of that year were: Homestead; Braddock; Duquesne; McKeesport, and surrounding communities; the Crucible Steel Co. in Lawrenceville; and the J. & L. plants in South Side and Hazelwood.

Mr. TAVENNER. By J. & L. do you mean Jones & Laughlin?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The plants in Homestead, Braddock, McKeesport, and Duquesne are plants of the United States Steel Co.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was similar work done in other points in the United States, of which this is a sample?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I know we have had quite a concentration in Gary and other cities, but western Pennsylvania was picked out in the United States as the concentration area.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the program followed there, with which you are familiar, was the general program adopted by the Communist Party in such matters?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. That was hammered out at the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945.

Mr. TAVENNER. Proceed.

Mr. CVETIC. In August 1948, the district office of the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania, through its organizer Roy Hudson, called a meeting of the district committee of the Communist Party. This meeting, which I attended as a leading functionary of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania, was held in the lecture room of the North Side Carnegie Library. It was attended by approximately 110 members of the Communist Party who were either elected members of the district committee or leading party functionaries. Functionaries could be members of the nationality commission, members of the steel commission, or any one of the commissions that functioned.

Mr. KEARNEY. Was that meeting open to the public?

Mr. CVETIC. No; it was a closed meeting.

Mr. KEARNEY. Did the authorities know it would be a Communist Party meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. I would say yes, because objections were raised at various times with Mr. Diebel, who is in charge of the library, objec-

tions raised by patriotic Americans, but he said as long as he was there if they wanted to use it for meetings they could do so.

Mr. KEARNEY. He is not a member of the Communist Party, is he?

Mr. CVETIC. Not to my knowledge. I have never seen him at any meetings.

At this meeting I was speaking of, Henry Winston, a member of the national board of the Communist Party, made the main report on the second day of this 2-day conference.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he a resident of western Pennsylvania, or was he brought in for this occasion?

Mr. CVETIC. He was brought in for this occasion.

Mr. TAVENNER. From where?

Mr. CVETIC. New York.

Mr. TAVENNER. Proceed.

Mr. CVETIC. In this report, Henry Winston stressed the importance of western Pennsylvania as a strategic and focal point in our struggle to bring socialism to the United States, because the basic industries are located in Pittsburgh.

Mr. WALTER. Did you hear anyone, at any of those meetings, advocate the overthrow of the Government by force and violence?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I will give quotes as we go along. I want to give direct quotations.

At this meeting Henry Winston stated—

The national board recognizes the importance of western Pennsylvania because the basic industries are located here—steel, mining, and electrical. If we want to bring socialism to the United States we must first build the party in these basic industries. The national board considers this area so important in the national struggle that it is sending one of its best organizers here, Steve Nelson, to replace Roy Hudson. The national board also is sending Steve Nelson here because United States Steel is located here, and we must build the party in United States Steel and other steel plants in western Pennsylvania. We must carry the program of the Communist Party to the workers in the steel mills, in the mines, and in the shops.

Then he closed by asking the members present at this meeting to accept Steven Nelson as their new organizer.

Roy Hudson spoke up and accepted the decisions of the national board. The district committee then voted unanimously to accept the decisions of the national board.

Henry Winston next presented Andy Onda and stated—

The national board is sending Andy Onda to western Pennsylvania for the purpose of working with Steve Nelson in the steel concentration area.

The meeting accepted this recommendation of the national board, and Andy Onda was made the steel organizer for the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania, in conformity with the decisions of the national board of the Communist Party.

Both Steve Nelson and Andy Onda are at the present time functioning in these capacities.

At this meeting Jim Dolsen, who is the Daily Worker representative and correspondent in western Pennsylvania, stated to me—and he stated to me personally—he is one of the leaders of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania and a long-time member—

I don't see how we can have a successful revolution in this country without getting control of the basic industries.

After this conference the following people were assigned to the steel concentration area. I might add here that these assignments were made on the basis of a decision of the district board of the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania to select at least one member from each branch in western Pennsylvania to work in the steel concentration area, and this area, as outlined at Communist Party meetings subsequent to the one I have just described, was the area in which the United States Steel Co. mills are located, or the Homestead-Duquesne-Braddock area.

These are some of the people who were assigned to and are working at the present time in this area: Eleanor Sackter, Bessie Steinberg, Alex Steinberg, and up until about 2 months ago Bill Gordon, who was brought in from New York to work in the steel concentration area. About 2 months ago he was moved to the north side to work as section organizer, replacing John Vidmar.

These organizers were directly under the charge of Andy Onda to work in the steel concentration area.

Mr. TAVENNER. In any of the meetings which you attended within the Communist Party framework, were ways and means discussed relative to the slowing up or shutting down of steel operations under any conditions?

Mr. CVETIC. I would rather answer that question a little later.

Mr. TAVENNER. Very well. After these assignments were made, did you learn of the measure of success or failure that resulted from their work?

Mr. CVETIC. I have talked to many of the members from this area, and the organizers who were assigned to work out there, and according to them, while they have been able to get additional subscriptions to the Daily and Sunday Worker, and have been able to distribute quite a bit of literature, their efforts in recruiting members have not been too successful.

The report I heard made by William Albertson, district secretary of the Communist Party, was that in the 18 months since Steve Nelson and Andy Onda came to Pittsburgh, not more than 25 people were recruited into the Communist Party in this strategic steel area. The best I have been able to ascertain, they have suffered some loss in that area. We had about 800 members in 1948, and now we have only 550 members in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you spoke of 25 members you meant 25 new members?

Mr. CVETIC. Twenty-five new Communist Party members.

I would like to add a few more comments of Communist Party members to show how important they regard western Pennsylvania.

Bill Gordon, one of the steel organizers sent to Pittsburgh by the national board, stated to me about 3 months ago: "If we can move Pittsburgh an inch, we can move the country a mile."

Sometimes people are of the impression that a large Communist Party membership is necessary for the party to gain control of a mill or plant. At the Crucible Steel Co. the Communist Party, with 8 or 10 members, was able to gain control of a union of 2,800 members in 2 years. The Communist Party likes to get its members in controlling jobs, such as stewards and so on, and in that way control the union.

Last year in New York City, while I was having dinner with Hyman Schlessinger, George Wuchinich, and Milo Mamula, Hyman Schlessinger made the following statement:

While we have a strong Communist Party in New York City, I don't see how we can wage a successful revolution unless we build the party in Pittsburgh. It stands to reason that we must get control of the basic industries and the industrial workers before we can even think of a revolution.

Hyman Schlessinger is an attorney in Pittsburgh and a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe you have testified that you were the organizer of the Communist cell in the Crucible Steel Co. at Lawrenceville?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I helped build it.

Mr. TAVENNER. What year was that?

Mr. CVETIC. 1945 and 1946, a little over a year.

Mr. TAVENNER. The organizational work was being done in that field as early as 1945?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, since the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945.

(Representative McSweeney leaves hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. How successful were you in your efforts in the organization of the Communist cell in Crucible Steel Co.?

Mr. CVETIC. We were able to recruit up to 22 members in the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that considered satisfactory progress?

Mr. CVETIC. That was considered a pretty good cell. Twenty-two members in a steel plant was considered a very good cell.

Mr. TAVENNER. I understood you to say a while ago that with that number or less you were able to take over a union of 2,800?

Mr. CVETIC. By the time we had 8 or 10 members we had control of the union.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who helped you in this organizational work at Crucible Steel Co.?

Mr. CVETIC. Dave Grant, who was the city secretary of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh; Eleanor Sackter; and Mike Saunders. Mike Saunders since has been transferred to New York City.

Mr. TAVENNER. Explain a little the operations of your cell. Did that cell meet separately from other Communist Party organizations?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, it did. At that time this cell was used by the district committee of the Communist Party as an example of what can be done in the steel industry by concentrating our efforts. And as a result of this work, the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania was able to elect at least three members of this cell as top officials of the steelworkers union at this plant. They were later ousted by the union members when their Communist Party status was exposed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were those that were exposed as Communist Party members and expelled from the union?

Mr. CVETIC. One was Zygmund Pascowski. Another was Joseph "Sonny" Robinson. Another one who was elected an officer, whether he was ousted or not I don't know, was Mike Filewich.

Mr. TAVENNER. You don't know whether he was ousted or not?

Mr. CVETIC. No. I know the first two were, because non-Communist union members waged a terrific fight against them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is there currently a Communist Party cell in operation at the Crucible Steel Co.?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the present membership, if you know?

Mr. CVETIC. As I understand it, the membership is down to 10 or 11 members.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify any of the present members there?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I can. While I haven't had contact with this cell over the past 2 years, I have seen at Communist Party meetings Mike Filewich and Joseph "Sonny" Robinson, even though I understand that for some reason which was not apparent to me Sonny Robinson was censored by the district committee of the Communist Party, and he may even have been expelled since my contacts with him.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify for the committee other members of the Communist Party who are currently active or have been active in the steel industry for the benefit of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I can add some names to the organizers I have already mentioned.

At the J. & L. plant, south side, Alex Stabor was one of the Communist Party organizers, although I believe that recently he has been transferred to the UE cell of the Communist Party.

At Homestead Steel, Elmer Kish has been and still is the Communist Party organizer?

Mr. TAVENNER. That is K-i-s-h?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Tony Salopek is the Communist Party organizer at the Carnegie Steel Co. in Duquesne.

I want to make it clear that these are Communist Party organizers and not union organizers.

Mr. WALTER. And they occupy positions in the union in the plant?

Mr. CVETIC. Some do, but in recent elections many of the Communist Party members have been voted out of office, but they still carry on their Communist work; they distribute literature and so on.

Mr. WALTER. What kind of work does George Wuchinich do?

Mr. CVETIC. He is head of Dobrovolni Odbor in New York City.

Mr. WALTER. What is that?

Mr. CVETIC. It does export and import business, as I understand it. I am not familiar with the organization.

Mr. WALTER. Did he serve with the armed forces in Yugoslavia?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. He served with the OSS in Yugoslavia, and he was also in China.

Mr. WALTER. You have spoken of these persons as being members of the Communist Party. How do you know that to be true?

Mr. CVETIC. I am testifying here on the basis of having attended Communist Party district meetings with these individuals; attending Communist Party functionary meetings with them; I attended one or two steel commission meetings; nationality commission meetings, and so on. I am testifying on the basis I have attended with these individuals Communist Party meetings called for Communist Party members alone. I am not referring to Communist Party mass meetings. I am referring to secret and clandestine meetings called for the purpose of hammering out Communist Party line and policy.

Mr. TAVENNER. At this point I would like to ask you certain questions regarding the Communist Party's interest and activity within the United Electrical Workers. Can you tell the committee what policy the Communist Party followed with regard to the electrical workers in the Pittsburgh area?

Mr. CVETIC. While I have never been assigned to work in the electrical industry, I have attended district committee meetings and section committee meetings, and I can testify that in Pittsburgh the Communist Party organizers in the electrical industry have been reassigned since Steve Nelson came to Pittsburgh, that is, since August 1948.

For example, Sam Reed, who was working in the steel concentration area, was transferred to the Erie area.

Dave Grant was sent to East Pittsburgh to concentrate his efforts at the Westinghouse plant.

And Jack Sartisky was assigned to the north side section of Pittsburgh to concentrate on the UE plant there.

As a member of the north side section of the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania, I attended meetings with Jack Sartisky, and at these meetings Jack Sartisky would report on the success he was having at this plant, and at these meetings the Communist line which Jack Sartisky was to carry down to the members in his cell was discussed.

Other members of the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania who were assigned to carry the Communist Party line into the United Electrical Workers and to build the Communist Party in this union are the following—and, again, I know these people to be Communist Party members for the same reasons I have given before:

Tom Fitzpatrick.

Mr. TAVENNER. You testified yesterday regarding Tom Fitzpatrick?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Tom Quinn; Alice Roth; and Nate Alberts.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you know Steve Rosner, who was the international representative of UE in Pittsburgh, and if so, was he a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I know Steve Rosner very well, and I have attended district committee meetings of the Communist Party with Steve Rosner. He is a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know where Steve Rosner is now?

Mr. CVETIC. No, I do not.

Mr. TAVENNER. With regard to the UE, who would you say are the principal workers for the Communist Party within the UE organization?

Mr. CVETIC. In the Communist movement in western Pennsylvania, Tom Fitzpatrick was always looked upon as the leading member. At district committee meetings of the Communist Party, Tom Fitzpatrick, at least up until recently, usually made the report on what was being accomplished at the Westinghouse plant in East Pittsburgh. On many occasions, Tom Quinn accompanied Tom Fitzpatrick at these meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, in your absence yesterday, I brought out the fact Tom Fitzpatrick had been brought here to testify and had refused to answer questions regarding his affiliations with the Communist Party. The Tom Quinn just referred to and identified by Mr. Cvetic as a member of the Communist Party, was before this committee on August 11, 1949, in connection with the committee's investigation of UE Local 601 at Pittsburgh, and refused to answer questions regarding his membership in the Communist Party.

At this point, Mr. Cvetic, I would like to ask you whether or not, during this present Congress, when various witnesses were subpoenaed

for their appearance before this committee, there was any unusual activity of any kind within the Communist Party committees relative to their being subpoenaed?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I attended at least two meetings which were called in Pittsburgh by Steve Nelson where the question of what the members of the Communist Party who were summoned before this committee were to answer in reply to the question, "Are you a member of the Communist Party?"

Mr. WALTER. Did they receive legal advice at these meetings?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. WALTER. From whom?

Mr. CVETIC. At the meetings I attended, Hyman Schlessinger and M. Y. Steinberg attended either one or both of these meetings.

Mr. WALTER. Did they advise them not to testify if asked if they were Communist Party members?

Mr. CVETIC. The meeting I attended was at the time Leo Fisher and Frank Borich were being called before the committee to testify, so we had a special meeting on this.

Mr. WALTER. Do you object to your photograph being taken?

Mr. CVETIC. No, it doesn't bother me.

Mr. WALTER. All right. Take the pictures.

(Pictures were taken by photographers.)

Mr. CVETIC. These meetings, as I testified before, were called on instructions of Steve Nelson. At one meeting I attended, in addition to the attorneys, Leo Fisher was present, George Wuchinich, Frank Borich, and myself. After a discussion during which different opinions were advanced by those present, the decision reached—and this was in discussion with the attorneys—the decision reached was that in answer to the question, "Are you a member of the Communist Party?" which they expected would be asked by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, they should refuse to answer on the basis it is a violation of the first and fifth amendments to the Constitution.

Mr. TAVENNER. So it became a part of the party line to advise witnesses subpoenaed before this committee not to answer?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. WALTER. Do you know whether or not that advice has been given generally as a part of the policy of the Communists, to advise their members they would not have to answer questions before this committee?

Mr. CVETIC. On this particular question, I attended these two meetings, and the subject was also discussed in meetings of party functionaries in western Pennsylvania. To the best of my knowledge, the line handed down has been that they should refuse to answer this question on the ground it is a violation of the first and fifth amendments to the Constitution. This has been the line hammered out by the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether any specific instructions along that line were given to Tom Fitzpatrick and Tom Quinn?

Mr. CVETIC. I can't answer specifically as to Tom Fitzpatrick and Tom Quinn, but at the policymaking meetings which I have attended in the past few years on this question, the decision was that the members summoned before the House Committee on Un-American Activi-

ties should refuse to answer on the grounds that it was a violation of their constitutional rights guaranteed under the first and fifth amendments.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I think it is interesting, in that connection, for me to recall to your mind the further answer of Tom Quinn when he refused to answer the questions put to him. He stated he was refusing to answer because he was defending the Constitution, which he held sacred. He stated:

I don't think I am hiding behind the Constitution, but in this case I am standing before it, defending it, as small as I am.

Mr. WALTER. That is not surprising, because a great many people hide behind the Constitution that they would destroy.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, do you know Leo Turner, an organizer of district 6 of the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers of America?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I do.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is he a member of the Communist Party, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you know that he is a member?

Mr. CVETIC. I attended district committee meetings with him in the lecture room of the North Side Carnegie Library.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know Charles Newell, an international representative of the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers of America, assigned to district 6?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I do.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is he a member of the Communist Party, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, he is.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you know that?

Mr. CVETIC. I attended district committee meetings of the Communist Party with him.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, what concentration has been made by the Communist Party on the coal industry in the Pittsburgh area?

Mr. CVETIC. In the coal industry in western Pennsylvania the Communist Party has assigned in recent years Gabe Kish, also known as George Kane, as the organizer in the coal mining concentration work.

In the last 2 or 3 months I have lost contact with Gabe Kish. He has not been in the district the last couple months.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where are the Communist Party activities in mining centered?

Mr. CVETIC. Most of the Communist Party activities in mining are centered in Washington County, Allegheny Valley, and around the Johnstown area. Some of the other organizers in this area are: Mike Stanovich, for Allegheny Valley; Steve Paich, for Washington County; Steve Straka, also for Washington County.

I want to point out that I have spoken at meetings in the coal mining areas, and the United Mine Workers resent very much the Communist Party. Since John L. Lewis and the United Mine Workers seem to know what the Communists are up to, the Communist Party has never been too successful in their work among the United Mine Workers.

Gabe Kish, under the name of George Kane, was elected a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party at the 1945 convention.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, there is information in the files of this committee to the effect that there is considerable Communist activity in the hotel and restaurant workers union in western Pennsylvania. Is that correct?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Could you give the committee the benefit of your knowledge regarding such activity?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The Communist Party in western Pennsylvania has a Communist cell working in the major hotels in Pittsburgh, and this cell is also responsible for Communist Party infiltration in the Heinz plant located in north side Pittsburgh.

I have knowledge of this, since I was a member of the north side section committee, and the hotel and restaurant workers' cell of the Communist Party is also a part of the north side section, and I attended many meetings with the organizers from this cell.

The main organizers in this cell for the Communist Party are Joe Mankin, who now is in charge of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers' cell in Pittsburgh; Nick Lazaris; George Nichols, who is the hiring agent for the hotel and restaurant workers in Pittsburgh; Eddie Lang, who works at the Heinz plant; Hamp Golden, who also works at the Heinz plant.

Mr. TAVENNER. Helen Kompus?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Helen Kompus, who works at the William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh.

In the past 6 months Joe Mankin has been the key organizer for the Communist Party activities in this cell, and has been instrumental in carrying on most of the agitation work now being conducted at the Heinz plant and in the hotels in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you familiar with an organization called Labor Youth League in Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I am.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is this a national organization of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, it is.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell the committee what you know of the organization and the functioning of such organization?

Mr. CVETIC. I attended a meeting of Communist functionaries in Pittsburgh in the spring of 1949 where the importance of setting up such a league was discussed.

Mr. TAVENNER. What year was that?

Mr. CVETIC. In the spring of 1949, this past year.

Mr. TAVENNER. The spring of this past year?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Subsequent to this meeting, Harold "Sonny" Orzick, who was sent to Pittsburgh by the national board of the Communist Party for the purpose of organizing the youth in western Pennsylvania, called a meeting at the Fort Pitt Hotel for the purpose of setting up a Labor Youth League in Pittsburgh.

William Albertson made the main report at this meeting. In this report he stressed the importance of setting up a Labor Youth League, and officers were elected at this meeting.

The policies of the Labor Youth League, however, are discussed and decided at meetings of the district board of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania and by leading functionaries of the Communist Party.

The Labor Youth League usually meets on Saturdays, but that is not a fixed day.

I have attended several meetings where the youth movement was discussed, and I would like to report on a recent meeting of the Communist Party functionaries which I attended, 4 or 5 weeks ago, in the Fort Pitt Hotel.

Stressing the importance of youth work, Bill Albertson, district secretary of the Communist Party, made the following statement:

Hitler won the youth in Germany before he was able to wage a successful fight for fascism. The Communist Party in the Soviet Union won over the youth before they were able to wage a successful revolution in 1917. And we must win the youth in the United States over to our program before we can wage a successful struggle here.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify for the committee some of the leaders in this youth movement who are members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. In addition to Harold Orzick, who is the youth organizer for the Communist Party, Bobby Jones is active in youth work.

Mr. TAVENNER. What does Harold Orzick do? What is his occupation?

Mr. CVETIC. He is a repair mechanic for Lou Bortz, who operates an electrical appliance shop in Pittsburgh.

Mr. WALTER. What do the activities among the youth consist of?

Mr. CVETIC. I have attended policymaking meetings. They distribute Communist Party literature. Many are active in organizing affairs within the framework of the Progressive Party.

Mr. WALTER. By "affairs" you mean athletic contests and such?

Mr. CVETIC. No. Most of the affairs recently were to raise funds.

Mr. WALTER. I am more concerned with the activities in indoctrinating the youth.

Mr. CVETIC. I haven't attended any of the classes. The indoctrination is done at classes. So I couldn't testify as to that because I wasn't present.

Mr. WALTER. Who did you say was in charge of youth work in Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. Harold Orzick.

Mr. WALTER. Where is he now?

Mr. CVETIC. Pittsburgh.

Mr. WALTER. Do you have his address?

Mr. CVETIC. No.

Mr. WALTER. I think it might be well to subpoena him, because it would be well for the American people to learn what the activities are in the way of indoctrinating the youth.

Mr. KEARNEY. Didn't you say he was working in a repair shop?

Mr. CVETIC. Electrical appliance shop; yes.

Mr. KEARNEY. You can get his address?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I can get his address. I can get the address of his place of business. I sold him insurance last week. He called the office and bought automobile insurance from me, but I didn't take the

time to get the address. I can get his home telephone number from the office.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who are some of the other persons active in the youth work?

Mr. CVETIC. Two other persons are Evelyn Abelson and Eddie Nixon.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have mentioned Harold Orzick, Bobby Jones, Evelyn Abelson, and Eddie Nixon as being active in the youth work. How many of those are Communists, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. The ones I mentioned are all Communist Party members. Again, I am testifying on the basis of attending Communist Party meetings with them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know the occupation of any of the others in that group? You have already given us the occupation of Harold Orzick.

Mr. CVETIC. At the time of my last contacts with Bobby Jones and Eddie Nixon they were both unemployed. Regarding Evelyn Abelson, I do not know her occupation.

May I also say, in connection with the suggestion of Congressman Walter that Harold Orzick be subpoenaed to come before this committee, it may not be a bad idea to bring some of the others with him because in the last 8 months they have been making some progress in building the Labor Youth League.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the approximate membership of the Youth League as of this time?

Mr. CVETIC. The meeting which I attended at the Fort Pitt Hotel was attended by approximately 40 youths. I would place the approximate membership at not more than 60.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is this organization completely controlled by the Communist Party, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This organization is completely controlled by the Communist Party. It was set up by the Communist Party for the purpose of activating the youth and to carry the Communist Party line into youth organizations, into the colleges, into the schools, and into the steel mills.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, the committee would like for you to explain the organization and strength of the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania, giving the number of branches, cells, and total membership, if you can.

Mr. CVETIC. Since 1948, at a meeting at the Seventh Avenue Hotel, for security reasons, it was decided not to make too many things public. It has been a little difficult to get this information. I will give you as much as I have here.

The Communist Party in western Pennsylvania has been broken down into sections since Steve Nelson came to Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. How many sections?

Mr. CVETIC. Five or six; certainly not more than seven. I am talking about western Pennsylvania sections.

Mr. TAVENNER. Proceed.

Mr. CVETIC. One of the sections is the steel section, which we have discussed—that is, the steel-concentration section.

Another section is the north side section, of which I am a member.

In addition to these two sections there are three or four other sections in western Pennsylvania. For example, in the north side section

we have the North Side Club, Croatian Club, the Hotel and Restaurant Workers, and the Lawrenceville Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. Those are four or five subsections of the North Side section?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. Until a few months ago we had a UE cell. Jack Sartisky headed it. In the last few months its activities were transferred to the east Pittsburgh section, where the main UE Communist Party activities are concentrated.

The steel section would comprise the branches in the steel concentration area, in the Homestead, Braddock, Duquesne, and surrounding areas. The other branches were placed in a similar manner; for example, the J. & L. Hill Club, and the Crucible Club, and one or two other branches belong to another section.

Mr. WALTER. Are these the only heavy industries in which these activities prevail? Do they go into cement, for example?

Mr. CVETIC. No. In the work the Communist Party carried on in western Pennsylvania, the top concentration was first plants of United States Steel. That was then and is still what they call the steel concentration area.

Mr. WALTER. Were similar activities conducted in the plants of Bethlehem Steel?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I am sure they were. The program hammered out in the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945 is still in effect today, and that is that we concentrate on basic steel. That was an absolute policy that was followed. The same way with this youth program. This is also a decision of the national convention of the Communist Party of 1945.

Mr. WALTER. What happened to the organization, American Youth for Democracy? That was an organization that was quite active at one time.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I attended a couple of their affairs. It just went out of existence.

Mr. WALTER. Didn't it go out of existence as a result of the exposure of it by the House Committee on Un-American Activities?

Mr. CVETIC. That is part of it. When those organizations are exposed, their usefulness usually ceases. For example, in western Pennsylvania we were able to get quite a few non-Communists into the American Slav Congress work. About 2 years ago the Pittsburgh press carried an exposé of the American Slav Congress in its newspapers and we lost a lot of members. In the last 2 years the only people who have attended American Slav Congress meetings have been Communist Party members. Exposing these organizations is the most effective way of preventing infiltration.

Mr. TAVENNER. You were telling us about the various clubs within the steel concentration section. What about the UE organization? Can you give us any detailed information in regard to that?

Mr. CVETIC. No. I mentioned that the only UE unit in the section of which I was a member, the north side section, recently was transferred to a UE concentration point in western Pennsylvania. All the cells were put in one because they have a common interest.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you give the committee the approximate total membership of these sections that you have just enumerated?

Mr. CVETIC. The only section that I can give you a figure for is the North Side section, of which I am a member, and this section had

90 members. I think we are going to lose a few members; perhaps one that I know of.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who heads the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. Steve Nelson. He is the district organizer for western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify for the committee his immediate subordinates who assist him in the performance of his duties?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. His immediate subordinates are:

Andy Onda, who is in charge of steel concentration work for the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania;

William Albertson, district secretary of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania;

Ben Careathers, who is in charge of Negro concentration work in western Pennsylvania;

Leo Fisher, who is in charge of the nationality commission under Steve Nelson;

Dave Grant, who has been assigned to the East Pittsburgh area as the Communist Party organizer for Communist Party organization and activities in the Westinghouse plant at East Pittsburgh;

Sam Reed, who is the organizer for the Communist Party at the General Electric plant in Erie, Pa.;

Bill Gordon, who was sent to Pittsburgh for the purpose of assisting Andy Onda in steel concentration work;

Joe Mankin, who has been assigned by William Albertson, district secretary, to concentrate his efforts in the hotel and restaurant workers union;

Harold "Sonny" Orzick, who was sent to western Pennsylvania by the national board of the Communist Party for the purpose of organizing the youth movement in western Pennsylvania for the Communist Party and setting up a Labor Youth League;

Alex Wright, who was assigned by the Communist Party to direct the work of the Progressive Party in western Pennsylvania;

Milo Mamula, who was assigned by the Communist Party to conduct the work in the Civil Rights Congress;

George Wuchinich, who left for New York a couple months ago. Up until that time he was assigned to the American Slav Congress activities and to carry the party line into this organization.

I think that covers his immediate subordinates.

Mr. TAVENNER. This list of individuals you have given us constitute the top-level Communists in the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania as it exists today?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct; yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. During the years that you spent in the Communist Party, how long did you know Steve Nelson, and how well did you know him?

Mr. CVETIC. I first met Steve after the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945, when he was assigned to direct the nationality commission of the Communist Party, U. S. A. Until August of 1948 I met periodically—and when I say periodically, that would be when Steve Nelson would call a meeting of the nationality commission and invite me as a member of the Slovene commission—with Nelson in New York and Pittsburgh, either at meetings of the nation-

ality commission, or met with him personally to discuss my work as secretary of the Slovene commission.

After Steve Nelson was assigned to western Pennsylvania as its district organizer in August of 1948, up until November 1949 when he became incapacitated due to a broken leg which he suffered while he was out hunting, I met regularly with Steve Nelson to discuss policy for the American Slav Congress and other front organizations in which I was active and which I have identified before.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, this is a convenient place to stop. It apparently is not going to be possible for him to complete his testimony today.

Mr. WALTER. The committee will recess until 10:15 tomorrow morning.

(Thereupon, at 12:10 p. m. on February 22, 1950, a recess was taken until Thursday, February 23, 1950, at 10:15 a. m.)

EXPOSE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

BASED UPON TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC (UNDERCOVER AGENT)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1950

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D. C.

PUBLIC HEARING

MORNING SESSION

The subcommittee met, pursuant to adjournment, at 10:30 a. m. in room 226, Old House Office Building, Washington, D. C., Hon. Morgan M. Moulder, presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives Morgan M. Moulder, Francis Case, and Bernard W. Kearney.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., counsel; Donald T. Appell, William A. Wheeler, and Courtney Owens, investigators; John W. Carrington, clerk; Benjamin Mandel, director of research; and A. S. Poore, editor.

Mr. MOULDER. The committee will be in order. Have the record show that these hearings are being continued by a subcommittee consisting of myself as acting chairman, Mr. Case, and Mr. Kearney, as authorized and directed by the chairman, Hon. John S. Wood.

Are you ready to proceed, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, at the time of our adjournment yesterday you were telling the committee of your associations in Communist work with Steve Nelson, and the position that he occupied. As a result of your position within the Communist Party, would you state that you worked in close relationship with Steve Nelson in Communist Party matters?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I have. Actually, the last year and a half or so, up until he broke his leg, I was in almost daily contact with Steve Nelson.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is it the practice for Steve Nelson, in his capacity as district organizer, to supervise and instruct party members as to the party line and party teachings?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; it is.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you describe a little in detail as to how that is done?

Mr. CVETIC. As the head of the district board of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania, and as the district organizer, it is Steve Nelson's job to carry to the district committee and functionaries' meetings the Communist Party line changes when they occur.

These party line changes usually are given to him at meetings of the national board of the Communist Party, which are usually held in New York City. When Steve Nelson would make a report on a party line change he would so specify that he had received this information at these board meetings, and he would present it to a combined meeting of the district committee and leading functionaries.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you at any time discussed with Nelson such subjects as Russia's knowledge of atom secrets, or the Communist Party's successes in China?

Mr. CVETIC. Well, I can quote Steve Nelson on the atom bomb, but insofar as the atom bomb secret, I always thought it was the better part of discretion not to ask any questions concerning espionage of the atom bomb. However, when President Truman announced that Russia had the atom bomb, I rode home with Steve Nelson after a meeting and he made the following statement to me, and I am quoting here Steve Nelson; he said: "We have the atom bomb now and the enemy won't be in such a God damned hurry to start a war." When he said the "enemy" he was referring to the United States Government.

On another occasion, before a meeting which was held at the Unitarian Center in north side, when the Communist victory in China was becoming apparent early last year, Steve Nelson said to me, "We are going to have the biggest liquidation of people's enemies in China since the 1917 revolution."

And still on another occasion, in referring to help for China—and here I am talking about help from the United States, we were discussing help for the new people's government in China—Steve Nelson made the following statement to me: "We should take all the help in money, machinery, and material from the enemy"—and here again "enemy" refers to the United States—"as this will hasten the day here." When he refers to help he is talking about help for the new people's government in China.

He further said, "We should take all the help we can from the suckers over here."

Mr. CASE. What was the date of that statement?

Mr. CVETIC. The date and the statement are in the files of the FBI. I did not keep copies of my reports to the FBI, but I did keep notations. This was when the victory in China was becoming apparent, and they started to build a drive here to get help from the United States for machinery and material.

Mr. CASE. In other words, it was within the past year?

Mr. CVETIC. It was within the past year. His statement is in my reports in the FBI files.

Mr. KEARNEY. May I ask a question here, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. MOULDER. Yes.

Mr. KEARNEY. I have listened to your testimony with a great deal of interest. I have listened to the testimony as you have told from time to time of meetings not only within your own district board with

Communists, but also with men of the top level in the Communist Party. What I would like to know is, at any time during any of these meetings, either with Nelson or with any other individual belonging to the Communist Party, was there any discussion about the overthrow of this Government by force and violence?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, Congressman. Later I am going to quote Steve Nelson at one particular meeting where he quoted out of the History of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union.

Mr. CASE. You stated until he broke his leg, you were in fairly close touch with him. At approximately what date did he break his leg?

Mr. CVETIC. It seems to me it was the early part of November 1949. He went hunting at Ridgeway and tripped over a stump, according to the newspapers, and broke his leg, and he has not been very active since until the last couple of weeks he has been coming into the office occasionally.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have spoken of Steve Nelson as an individual who, through his position, passed down the party line to other persons. Is there any other person active in passing the party line down to the rank and file?

Mr. CVETIC. Oftentimes, when a Communist Party line change related to an organizational problem, Bill Albertson, district secretary of the Communist Party, was given the job of making a report to the district committee and functionaries. When the report of the Communist Party line change related to basic industry, or steel concentration, or, for example, when Philip Murray took a stand against Communist Party activities in the union, in this kind of situation Andy Onda, Communist Party organizer in steel concentration in western Pennsylvania, would usually report on the party line change.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who in the party has the function of educating the rank-and-file members regarding the teachings of communism?

Mr. CVETIC. On that I can go back to 1945. At that time I was a member of the organizational and educational committee of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania. I can give you the members I sat with on this committee.

Mr. MOULDER. It is necessary at this time that I absent myself because I have to attend an important hearing before the Senate Appropriations Committee. Have the record show Mr. Case will preside, and Mr. Case and Mr. Kearney are sitting as an authorized and designated subcommittee.

Mr. CASE. Counsel will proceed.

Mr. TAVENNER. You were about to give us, I believe, the names of those who functioned prominently in handing down to the rank and file of the party the educational features of the party.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. From the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945 until August 1948, I served on the organizational and educational committee of the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania. This committee was responsible, as the title indicates, for the organizational and educational direction in the party. Roy Hudson, who was district organizer of the party at that time, was chairman of the committee. His wife, Andrea Hudson, was membership secretary of the committee. Bessie Murin Steinberg was the

educational director of this committee. Jim Dolsen, the Daily Worker editor for western Pennsylvania, was on the committee. Eleanor Sackter, who was responsible for the steel concentration work at the Crucible Club, was a member of this committee. And Joe Godfrey, who, up until he left Pennsylvania, was treasurer of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania, was also a member of this committee. And I was a member of this committee as a member of the finance committee of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mentioned Bessie Steinberg as the educational director of the committee. Do you know whether she was married to a person other than Steinberg at one time?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. She isn't married at the present time, as I recollect. Her maiden name was Steinberg, and she was married to a Communist Party member whose last name was Murin.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that Steve Murin, M-u-r-i-n?

Mr. CVETIC. Steve; that is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did Steve Murin live in Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. When I met Bessie Murin Steinberg she had already been divorced, and I have never had contact with Steve Murin, except I know from conversation within the organization that she was married to him at one time.

Mr. KEARNEY. What was Murin's first name?

Mr. CVETIC. Stephen.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the function of this committee which you described?

Mr. CVETIC. This committee was responsible for directing the organizational and educational work of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania. My job as a member of this committee was to prepare and arrange affairs to raise funds for the Communist Party. Bessie Steinberg planned classes, with the help of Dave Grant, who was city secretary of the Communist Party at the time. Jim Dolsen planned Daily and Sunday Worker drives.

In meetings we would report what we had accomplished, and plan future work for the party. Andrea Hudson was membership secretary, and she would plan the work of registration and usually make reports on how many members we had, losses, if any, increases, and a break-down of membership, what industries they were working in, and so on.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee what efforts were made to indoctrinate you with Communist philosophy and teachings, and how this philosophy and teaching is carried to the rank and file of the Communist Party in the United States?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I will be glad to do that. During my early days in the Communist Party most of the theory taught in the classes which I attended was based on the books written by Earl Browder. I joined the party in February 1943, and most of the reading material and books at that time were books which were written by Earl Browder. At that time the line was that the Communist Party and capitalism can cooperate over a long period of time, and that eventually socialism may be attained by peaceful means. This was the line between February 1943 and the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945.

In the summer of 1945 I attended some of the sessions of the national convention of the Communist Party, and subsequent and prior to that national convention I attended many district meetings of the Communist Party, and also Communist Party branch meetings, at which the new Communist Party line adopted at the national convention in 1945 was discussed.

The change in the party line at the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945 was adopted as the result of a report made by Jacques Duclos, a leader of the French Communist Party. He issued for the American Communist Party a report which was published, I think, as early as April 1945, in which he sharply criticized the American Communist Party for the line which they were using at that time, and this line was that the progressive sections of capitalism and the forces of socialism should work together.

As I remember, in this particular report, too, Jacques Duclos said that the comrades in Europe were very much disturbed at the attitude of the American Communist Party members; and he said they expected more help over there, and that the American Communist Party's line at that time was causing a lot of feeling in Europe among the Communists; that they felt we were not helping at all.

At the national convention where this report was used as a guide, the teachings of Earl Browder, who taught that communism and capitalism can cooperate over a long period of time and that eventually there could be a peaceful transition to socialism, were thrown out and were replaced once again by the teachings of Marx, Lenin, Stalin, and Engels. In the words of the speakers at the national convention and later at district and branch meetings of the Communist Party:

We must again become the party of the working class, the party of struggle. We must educate the workers to their correct role in this struggle and establish in the United States a dictatorship of the proletariat.

I want to add here that I attended the national convention, and there were many questions raised as to why Earl Browder was ousted from the Communist Party. Whether he was just what we call in the United States a "fall" guy in the change in party line, I don't know, but it was my definite impression from what I heard and observed that he was ousted because he advocated a peaceful transition to socialism. And this report of Jacques Duclos required a change of personalities, and after the convention of 1945 the Communist Party line was to go back to the teachings of Marx and Lenin, which advocated the violent overthrow of existing governments.

Mr. CASE. This quotation, is that taken from an official document?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. It is taken from the party line. I turned over the official report to the FBI.

Mr. CASE. Was it adopted at the national convention?

Mr. CVETIC. It was adopted at the national convention.

Mr. CASE. How was it expressed at the local or district meetings?

Mr. CVETIC. At the district committee meetings, and brought down to the branch meetings, it was expressed the same way. At one meeting Joe Godfrey and Dolly Gainor spoke on this change, and Roy Hudson. I could mention a lot of names. We did have meetings after the national convention. District committee meetings are called to adopt by vote the resolutions of the national convention. I attended several such meetings. We voted to adopt the line of the national convention.

Mr. CASE. Was Duclos himself present at the national convention?

Mr. CVETIC. No.

Mr. CASE. What form did his report take?

Mr. CVETIC. At that time I was not too familiar with members of the national board, but the people who spoke at the meeting would present this line right from the speakers' platform in the convention. As a matter of fact, after the line was once adopted it was a question of either accepting the line or those who would not accept it were expelled from the party. After that the Browder teachings were referred to as Browderism; and that term is used in the party at this time to designate anyone who follows Browder's teachings.

Mr. CASE. Let the record show that the acting chairman was called to the telephone and that Mr. Kearney will preside.

(Representative Case leaves hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Duclos is a member of the Communist Party in France?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether he was actually considered as the mouthpiece of the Communist International?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, he was.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know, or did you learn, what authority he had to speak for the Communist International?

Mr. CVETIC. Why, again, this is a subject that was never discussed at any meetings. His articles at that time were given prominence in the Sunday and Daily Worker, which is the official newspaper of the Communist Party here. These articles by Duclos, which appeared in the Sunday and Daily Worker, were used as the basis of the discussion which resulted in the party line change. And the party line change was to go back to the teachings of Marx, Lenin, Stalin, and Engels.

Mr. TAVENNER. So the suggestions made by Duclos were carried out and became a part of the new party line?

Mr. CVETIC. They became the new party line, that is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Could the Communist Party of the United States, after its 1945 convention, have followed any other line than that stated by Duclos?

Mr. CVETIC. My answer to that would be that it could not, because anyone who did not accept this new line was expelled from the party. There were expulsions of members about this time. Some of the leaders in Philadelphia were expelled because they would not accept the new line. I don't recall their names, but they are of record in the Sunday and Daily Worker.

Mr. TAVENNER. And I believe you stated Browder was expelled?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct, because he would not accept the new party line.

Mr. KEARNEY. Is Browder now a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. No. He was expelled from the party because of his adherence to his own teachings, which were cooperating with capitalism over a long period of time, and so on.

Mr. TAVENNER. Between the year 1943 and the time you attended the convention in 1945, were you under instructions from the party as to the theory and philosophy of the Communist teachings?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. A Communist never stops receiving instructions, either in classes or through "must" reading.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is it mandatory that they receive such instructions?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Communist Party members attend classes on various levels. For example, classes are set up for functionaries, that is, for advanced members of the Communist Party; then there are classes for Communist Party members who are beginners and perhaps can't absorb the advanced theories; and we have even organized classes for Communist Party sympathizers, to try to get them into the party.

In other words, there were different classes in Marxism, Leninism, and so on. The Communist Party also assigns to its members outstanding theoretical books of Marx, Lenin, and Stalin as "must" reading, guides for action.

Mr. TAVENNER. You speak of guides for action. That is distinguished from the reading of books for dogma or theory?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you say the books on the "must" list for study were intended as guides for action?

Mr. CVETIC. Absolutely, yes. And the party program is to take what you learn into your trade-unions and educate the masses as to what the Communist Party says is the correct role to take.

(Representative Case returns.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Who were the instructors in these various classes on the different levels?

Mr. CVETIC. The most recent class I attended was for members of the executive committees of the section of which I was a member, and this was in January, February, and March of 1949. This class was instructed by Bill Albertson, the district secretary of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. In the course of their teachings, how did they refer to the United States Government?

Mr. CVETIC. Well, I would like to draw here a comparison as to how they refer to the various governments. They would refer to the Soviet Union as a people's democracy. At the present time they would refer to the new Chinese Government as a people's democracy. And in referring to the United States Government they would refer to it as an imperialist government or imperialist aggressor at the present time.

In other words, our Government here, the United States Government, in the words of the Communist Party, is an imperialist government, so taught in classes, so used at Communist Party meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us in what manner, if at all, the membership of the Communist Party is taught that forceful overthrow of the Government is required in order to advance, ultimately, the principles of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. I will answer that question in this way: I mentioned before that the Communist Party is very careful on the use of the words "violent overthrow of the Government" or "revolution." Our present stress is to infiltrate into steel, and so forth, with the party line.

I mentioned before that all our practices are based on the teachings of Marx, Lenin, and Stalin. In one of the classes I attended—and this is the class I mentioned before, held in January, February, and March 1949—I was assigned by William Albertson, who is the district secretary of the Communist Party, to read the History of the Com-

munist Party of the Soviet Union to help me gain the correct theory and practice that we are to follow.

Evidently in one of the classes I made a slip-up on theory, and Bill Albertson said I must read the History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to correct it. Previously, too, that book was "must" reading, and it is one of the books used in the educational classes.

I will read some excerpts from this book. On page 9 of the History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, under the caption "Dictatorship of the proletariat and violent overthrow of the existing governments," I want to read the following:

Marx and Engels taught that it was impossible to get rid of the power of capital and to convert capitalist property into public property by peaceful means and that the working class could achieve this only by revolutionary violence against the bourgeoisie by a proletarian revolution by establishing its own political rule the dictatorship of the proletariat, which must crush the resistance of the exploiters and create a new classless Communist society.

This is right out of one of the books that is used as a text in the educational classes of the Communist Party, and it is a direct quote from Marx and Engels, whose teachings are at the present time being followed in the Communist Party of the United States.

Mr. CASE. And that was a book given to you as part of the study in the classes you attended in 1949?

Mr. CVETIC. That is absolutely true; yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. And I believe you described it as on the "must" list?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct. This book was given to me to read because I make some mistakes in theory in the class, and Bill Albertson assigned this book to me to correct the mistakes I had been making in my theory. I read it, and this is one of the excerpts. This is the actual book that I got [holding up book]; I kept it.

Mr. CASE. And Bill Albertson was the instructor?

Mr. CVETIC. He was the instructor at this class, yes.

I would add here that the infiltration of trade-unions by the Communist Party is no accident. Further on in this same book, on page 9, we have the basis for their interest in the trade-unions, and I am quoting again right out of the book:

But Marx and Engels taught that the industrial proletariat is the most revolutionary and therefore the most advanced class in capitalist society, and that only a class like the proletariat could rally around itself all the forces discontented with capitalism and lead them in the storming of capitalism. But in order to vanquish the Old World and create a new classless society the proletariat must have its own working class party which Marx and Engels call the Communist Party.

We have always been taught in class that the trade-union movement must be used as the base, and that is the reason why basic industries and the unions in the basic industries are the main concentration of the Communist Party, because in their teachings they teach that unless they can gain control of the working class, they cannot have a revolution; that this is the base from which they must storm capitalism.

Mr. CASE. Where did you attend this class?

Mr. CVETIC. 440 Wood Street, on the third floor. This building has since been torn down; they are building a new building there.

Mr. CASE. In what city?

Mr. CVETIC. Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. In the event of conflict between the Soviet Union and this Government, what would be the position of the Communist Party of the United States and its members, as far as you have learned from the teachings and discussions within the party?

Mr. CVETIC. Again, in answering this question I am going to answer it with the teachings of Marx and Lenin, which are the basis of the Communist Party line here.

At the many Communist Party meetings which I have attended in the last 7 years, I have heard the leaders of the Communist Party refer to the Soviet Union as a people's democracy, and to the United States as an imperialist government or an imperialist aggressor.

I am mentioning this because when I read the next excerpt I would like the committee to pay particular attention to the term "imperialist government."

I should like to read the following excerpt from pages 167 and 168 of the History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Communist bible of theory and practice.

Before I read this I also want to state here that last year I attended a meeting in the Jewish Cultural Center, located at 6328 Forbes Street in Pittsburgh. This meeting was called by the Communist Party in the district for the purpose of organizing the Sunday and Daily Worker drive. Steve Nelson, who is the district organizer of the Communist Party in western Pennsylvania, made a talk at this meeting, and he quoted this particular paragraph right out of the History of the Communist Party in the Soviet Union. There were about 50 people at this meeting. I also reported to the FBI that this particular excerpt was read by Steve Nelson at this meeting, which was either in January or February of 1949. I am going to quote, and this is right out of the book:

It was not to every kind of war that the Bolsheviks were opposed. They were only opposed to wars of conquest and imperialistic war. The Bolsheviks held that there were two kinds of war: (a) Just wars, wars that were not wars of conquest but wars of liberation waged to defend the people from foreign attack and from attempts to enslave them; or to liberate the people from capitalistic slavery; or, lastly, to liberate colonies and defend countries from the yoke of imperialism; (b) unjust wars—

that is, the other kind of wars—

wars of conquest, waged to conquer and enslave foreign countries and foreign nations. Wars of the first kind the Bolsheviks supported.

that is, the just wars that they referred to—

As to wars of the second kind the Bolsheviks maintained that a resolute struggle must be waged against them to the point of revolution and the overthrow of one's own imperialist government.

As a member of the Communist Party, I would take this to mean that if I was a Communist Party member in good standing and there was a war between the Soviet Union and the United States Government, which the Communist Party refers to here as an imperialist government, my job would be to wage a struggle against my own Government to the point of overthrowing it.

Mr. KEARNEY. In other words, if there was a war between the Soviet Union and the United States of America, every Communist in good standing in the Communist Party would support the Soviet Union in the war between our Government and the Soviet Union?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The words are very clear to me. They refer to us as an imperialist government.

Mr. KEARNEY. I would take that to mean, reading it for the first time, a support in every way for the Soviet Union in its war with the United States?

Mr. CVETIC. I didn't understand you, Congressman.

Mr. KEARNEY. In other words, if there should be a conflict between the Soviet Union and our country, the United States of America, every Communist in this country would do everything within his power, by any means, to support the Soviet Union in that war?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct. He would be bound by the teachings and advocacy of the Communist Party in the United States, as it says here, to wage a struggle against his own Government, even to the point of a revolution and the overthrow of his own imperialist government. The Communist Party refers to the United States Government as an imperialist government.

Mr. KEARNEY. Can you tell the committee if there would be any penalty attached to the individual Communist if he did not support the Soviet Union in the event of conflict?

Mr. CVETIC. I will go back to the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945 when the party line changed and Browder was expelled from the party. I feel quite certain that any criticism of the Soviet Union, even just criticism, would be sufficient to have a member expelled from the party.

Mr. KEARNEY. Would that be the only penalty?

Mr. CVETIC. Well, for example, the penalty for what I am doing here now, I read some of the newspaper reports out of Pittsburgh and the Communist Party is referring to me in a lot of unglowing terms.

Mr. KEARNEY. What do you mean by that?

Mr. CVETIC. I am the victim of what Communists refer to as character assassination. They will dig up my past to print what they can in the Daily and Sunday Worker; and in the proverbial language I am a rat, a renegade, a traitor to the people, antidemocratic, anti-labor, and so on. In other words, you become the victim of character assassination.

Mr. CASE. What happens to your party membership?

Mr. CVETIC. Well, I guess they will have a meeting one of these days—because I sat through some of these meetings—and expel me.

Mr. CASE. These things you have been telling us are being taught in Communist schools in the United States as of 1949?

Mr. CVETIC. Since 1945.

Mr. CASE. But this class you attended where they assigned this textbook to you was in 1949?

Mr. CVETIC. January, February, and March 1949. There are other textbooks. I will go into that later.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like to interrupt at this moment, Mr. Chairman, to refresh your recollection as to what was said by Steve Nelson when he was before this committee on June 8, 1949. This question was asked him by Mr. Moulder:

Mr. Nelson, in the event of war between the United States and Russia, to which country would you owe your allegiance and loyalty in such conflict?

Mr. NELSON. I refuse to answer that question.

Mr. KEARNEY. Did Steve Nelson go by any other name?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I answered that earlier. Steve Mesarosh. But in Pittsburgh, since I have known him there, he has used the name of Steve Nelson.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated the title to one book which was assigned as "must" reading in the education of a Communist Party member. Are there other books?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; and I will state here the names of the main books assigned as "must" reading for the Communist Party members. These books are all used in class instructions on the theory and practice of communism as textbooks:

First, the Communist Manifesto; second, State and Revolution; third, History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union; fourth, the Ten Classics of Marx; the fifth, the Foundations of Leninism.

While there are many books which are used in Communist Party instructions, in the classes which I have attended I have found these to be the main ones used to indoctrinate Communist Party members in the United States.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, are you acquainted with radio station WLOA in Braddock, Pa.?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I am.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us what you know about that station in regard to the use of Communist propaganda in the last few years.

Mr. CVETIC. While I was a member of the executive committee of the American Slav Congress, I met with Roy Hudson and George Wuchinich at the YMCA in downtown Pittsburgh, and at Tambillini's Restaurant on Fourth Avenue, to discuss a radio program for the American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania. At that time Roy Hudson was district organizer for the Communist Party.

As a result of these meetings, we decided to initiate a program in the name of the American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania at radio station KQV. However, radio station KQV rejected our program, and after meeting with Calvin Brook, who is also a member of the Communist Party, we were able to obtain the facilities of radio station WLOA in Braddock because Calvin Brook had what he said was a good contact out there and made the arrangements for us.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you say "for us," what group are you referring to?

Mr. CVETIC. I am referring to the American Slav Congress, but actually the program was organized by the Communist Party. The people who initiated the program were Roy Hudson, George Wuchinich, and myself. We were all Communist Party members at the time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us what happened.

Mr. CVETIC. Mr. Matta having agreed to accept our program, broadcasts were immediately initiated in the name of "Keep America Free," the program of the American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. The title was "Keep America Free"?

Mr. CVETIC. That was the title of the program.

Mr. TAVENNER. Free for the Communists?

Mr. CVETIC. It took us 2 hours to work out the title.

Mr. TAVENNER. Proceed.

Mr. CVETIC. George Wuchinich was the master of ceremonies of this broadcast.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the type of the usual program?

Mr. CVETIC. The program usually dealt with some political topic, and the treatment of the topic was usually discussed at meetings in the American Slav Congress office or at the YMCA or at Tambilini's Restaurant, with Roy Hudson, the district organizer of the Communist Party, when he was there, and later with Steve Nelson when he became the district organizer of the Communist Party, George Wuchinich, and myself. We would sit down and discuss the content of the program.

Mr. TAVENNER. In other words, just as in the case of the usual front organization, the policy and plans of this program were formed by the officers of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. Steve Nelson would come in the office of the American Slav Congress and sometimes say, "The weekly program this week will be this." We always followed the Communist Party line. I have the scripts with me and will submit them later to the committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the script usually gone over by the officers of the Communist Party at these meetings?

Mr. CVETIC. The scripts in most cases were prepared by George Wuchinich, and after he prepared them we would call a meeting of Roy Hudson, George Wuchinich, and myself, when Roy was there, and when he was not there with Steve Nelson, and the three of us would go over the scripts.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether or not Mr. Matta, to whom you referred as being in charge of radio station WLOA, I believe that is William G. Matta, E. R. Matta, or George C. Matta, the directors and incorporators of that radio station, are members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. To the best of my knowledge they are not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you have any knowledge of other programs broadcast over WLOA which were supervised by the Communist Party or a front organization?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. There was a Croatian program which was directed by the Croatian Commission of the Communist Party, Arthur Bartl being in charge.

There was a Ukrainian program which was in charge of Mike Hanusiak.

Then there was a Polish program sponsored by the Gdynia-American Lines and narrated by Paul Kluvo.

And there was a Slovak program narrated by Calvin Brook and Mike Dudash.

All the men I have mentioned here as being in charge of these broadcasts are members of the Communist Party; that is, in the foregoing statement in answer to your question about the programs.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are all these programs handled in the same manner as were the programs of the American Slav Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The line taken into these programs was always discussed by the nationality commission of the Communist Party or by the Communists at the Language Press and then carried into the program.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are these programs still being conducted over the air over this station?

Mr. CVETIC. The American Slav Congress program went off the air at the request of Bill Matta over 6 months ago. As to the others, some have cut down their time and we understand some have ceased broadcasting altogether.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were these broadcasts used, under this plan, by the American Slav Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. The American Slav Congress used them for a period of 80 weeks or more. I made the final broadcast. I believe it was the eighty-first or eighty-second, something like that.

Mr. CASE. The Chair will state that, in view of the fact the House is meeting at noon and there was pending business when the House adjourned early this morning which will be taken up immediately upon its reconvening, the committee will suspend to meet again this afternoon. But before we suspend, the Chair desires to ask a few questions.

Do you know of any Communist Party activity in connection with the stoppage of coal production in the country at the present time?

Mr. CVETIC. I know of some Communist activity, but not in connection with the actual coal stoppage. I know of activities to carry the party line into the coal fields, but not in connection with the coal stoppage.

In earlier testimony I stated that while the Communist Party is working in the coal fields, they haven't made any progress with the United Mine Workers. Take, for example, in the present strike, I met with Bill Gordon, a Communist Party organizer, a week ago last Saturday, and he said the Communist Party has brought 50 youth leaders from New York to work in the coal fields, and they are going out there with the Sunday and Daily Worker, and they are collecting food.

Bill Gordon said: "You give the coal miner a can of food. Then when you offer him a Daily or Sunday Worker, how can he turn it down?" So they use food as bait.

Mr. CASE. The statement has been made by Members of Congress that they have heard of gangs operating to prevent the return to work of miners who desire to return to work. Do you know of such activity promoted as a Communist activity?

Mr. CVETIC. I do not. I don't even know their entire activity, but Bill Gordon, a Communist Party member, did tell me 50 members of the Labor Youth League were sent from New York to operate in the coal fields.

Mr. KEARNEY. I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, I don't know how long this pending bill will take, but I would suggest we recess until a tentative time of 3 o'clock, and if it becomes necessary to adjourn we can get in touch with counsel.

Mr. CASE. That is a good suggestion.

It might be stated that a copy of this testimony relating to Communist radio broadcasts will be sent to the Federal Communications Commission for its attention.

The committee stands recessed until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

(Thereupon, at 12 o'clock noon, a recess was taken until 3 p. m. of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

(The subcommittee reconvened at 3 p. m., Representatives Francis E. Walter (presiding), Burr P. Harrison (arriving as indicated), and Bernard W. Kearney being present.)

Mr. WALTER. Mr. Cvetic, you have been sworn.

You may proceed.

TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, will you tell the committee whether or not you are familiar with the current Communist Party line?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I am. The current Communist Party line—and this was the line before I left Pittsburgh last Friday—was to build a united front, as a Communist would say, from down below. This is done by going into the mass organizations, going into the steel mills, and carrying the Communist Party line into these organizations on any issue in which the Communist Party has an interest, either the peace issue, which they are working on now, or some other issue. For example, if there was a wage dispute, to get down to the rank and file with part of our program.

In many Communist Party meetings which I attended it was brought out we should not try to think in terms of having the people accept our whole program, but if we can work with the people in the mills and in the shops and meet with them on any issue, we should do this.

In a Communist Party meeting when we talk of a united front we mean it might be a fight for one issue—a fight for Negro rights, a fight against a trolley-fare increase, and so on—but to be careful not to try to bring our entire party line to these people or they may accept it.

Mr. KEARNEY. May I ask a question à propos at this time?

Mr. WALTER. Yes.

Mr. KEARNEY. You have testified to methods by which the Communist Party disseminates the party line among the rank and file. Will you tell the committee who determines the so-called twists and turns of this line, and where it originates?

Mr. CVETIC. I have previously testified that in party meetings we never talk about communism just in one word. We always refer to international communism. In other words, when we have these educational classes and have discussions, we never talk about communism. We talk about international communism. In other words, the struggle is for international communism, to communize the world.

In addition to these theoretical books of Marx, Lenin, Stalin, and so on, we are furnished with the Sunday and Daily Worker, which is available to us, and which is the official organ of the Communist Party here. And for the advanced and functionary members of the Communist Party we are furnished a weekly bulletin which is the official document of the Cominform, and which comes out of the eastern European countries. This is also furnished to the advanced members of the Communist Party so that they can take the line down to the members on the lower level.

Mr. KEARNEY. That line originates outside the confines of the United States?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The bulletin we got is the official document of the Cominform.

Mr. KEARNEY. Where does it come from?

Mr. CVETIC. From Bucharest, I think. It is made available to us weekly.

Mr. KEARNEY. In other words, the American Communist not only follows the party line all the way down the line, but takes orders from Bucharest or somewhere else outside the confines of the United States?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Our orders come from the Kremlin, from the Cominform. I mentioned before the secretary of the French Communist Party who was instrumental in bringing about the Communist Party line change at the national convention of the Communist Party in 1945.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to add that this bulletin is also on the "must" reading list for functionaries and advanced party members.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the title of this bulletin?

Mr. CVETIC. All I know is that it is the official document of the Cominform. I have submitted copies to the FBI. The document the Congressman is looking at seems to be one of them.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a paper and ask if this is the type of bulletin you are referring to?

Mr. CVETIC. This is the Organ of the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties For a Lasting Peace for a People's Democracy, and this is the bulletin I refer to.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer that bulletin in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit 1."

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit 1," is filed in connection with this record.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, are you acquainted with an individual by the name of Steven Loyen?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I am acquainted or have been acquainted with Steven Loyen.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the nature of your acquaintanceship with this individual?

Mr. CVETIC. After I joined the Communist Party I met Steve Loyen at many meetings of the nationality commission of the Communist Party. When he was in Pittsburgh he was to a large measure responsible for the Communist Party organizational work in the Croatian movement. Steve since then has gone back to Yugoslavia.

Mr. TAVENNER. What work did he do in connection with the Croatian Fraternal Union?

Mr. CVETIC. In connection with the Croatian Fraternal Union, he helped to direct the work in the Croatian Council. He also helped to direct the work in the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief and the United Committee of South Slavic Americans. And he was also employed by Narodni Glasnik, which is located at 1916 East Street.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know an individual by the name of John Bronich?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I do.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the nature of your acquaintanceship with him?

Mr. CVETIC. I met John Bronich at Communist Party meetings, nationality commission meetings. At the present time, as I understand it, he is with the Croatian Fraternal Union.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have identified Mary Sumrak as a member of the Communist Party who is employed at the Narodni Glasnik. Do you know her husband, Mark Sumrak?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I do.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the nature of your acquaintanceship with him?

Mr. CVETIC. While I have never had too much contact with Mark Sumrak, I have seen him at Communist Party meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know an individual by the name of Peter Margetich?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I know Peter Margetich very well.

(Representative Harrison arrives in hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us about your acquaintanceship with him.

Mr. CVETIC. Peter Margetich is from Cleveland, Ohio. My acquaintanceship with Peter Margetich has been as a result of attending nationality commission meetings in Cleveland, Ohio, and in Pittsburgh. From my contacts with him it was indicated that he is one of the most responsible Communist Party members in Cleveland, Ohio, in the Slav commission, and when I say Slav commission, he usually carries on organizational work for the Croatian, Serbian, and Slovene commissions in Cleveland.

Mr. TAVENNER. Has there ever been an occasion when you were requested to obtain information from Government agency sources for use by the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Well, I can recollect at least one occasion when Roy Hudson, who was then district organizer for the Communist Party—and this was while I was employed at the United States Employment Service—Roy Hudson asked me to come to his office one day, and he asked me to secure from the files of the United States Employment Service information relative to the number of employees working in industry in western Pennsylvania. The information he requested he wanted broken down into the various companies and various industries, steel and so on.

In answer to Roy Hudson's request, before I furnished him with any information I contacted the office of the FBI and told them what he wanted me to do. They told me to go ahead and see what I could find, and before I turned it over to Roy Hudson to check with them.

I went to the United States Employment Service, removed the information from the files that Roy Hudson wanted me to get; I checked it with the agent of the FBI with whom I was working; we manipulated some of the figures; then I turned them over to Roy Hudson. What he did with the figures after I turned them over to him, I don't know.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did that occur?

Mr. CVETIC. He came to Pittsburgh as the district organizer after the national convention of 1945, and this was 6 months or so after I met him in Pittsburgh. I would say it was the latter part of 1945 or first part of 1946. I filed a report on it, and cleared with the FBI before I turned the papers over to Roy Hudson.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you been requested by any official of the Communist Party, or any group of officials, to gain access to any particular records of Communist-front organizations?

Mr. CVETIC. You mean recently?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, recently.

Mr. CVETIC. I always had access to some documents of Communist-front organizations. The most recent request I had came from William Albertson, district secretary of the Communist Party, and this request came through Milo Mamula. We had some records of the Civil Rights Congress, the American Slav Congress, and Progressive Party records in the office at 943 Liberty Avenue.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you say "we" to whom do you refer?

Mr. CVETIC. When I say "we" I mean the members instrumental in working in these front organizations, Milo Mamula, George Wuchinich, and myself.

I was told that I should remove these records so that the FBI couldn't come and pick them up.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say that request came from Albertson?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Through—

Mr. CVETIC. Milo Mamula.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you know the request came from Albertson through Mamula?

Mr. CVETIC. Mamula said that Albertson said to get those records out of there before the FBI or some investigator picked them up.

Mr. TAVENNER. When did that conversation occur?

Mr. CVETIC. That has occurred probably four or five times in the last few weeks. I said: "Why don't you take them out and burn them?" They wanted me to destroy them so that the records would not be available to investigators.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you follow the directions and take those papers out?

Mr. CVETIC. After Mamula insisted so much that I take them out and destroy them, I finally took them out, and I have about 80 pounds of them which I brought here.

Mr. TAVENNER. The committee issued a subpoena for you to produce them?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right, and here they are [indicating two large suitcases].

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you open them?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

(Witness opens suitcases.)

Mr. CASE. What do these documents relate to?

Mr. CVETIC. They relate to Communist-front organizations like the American Slav Congress, Civil Rights Congress, and the work of some of our members in the Progressive Party. The instructions to remove these documents came from the district secretary of the Communist Party.

Mr. WALTER. Who was that, again?

Mr. CVETIC. William Albertson.

Mr. CASE. I notice there are what appear to be bank statements and check stubs?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I was asked to destroy all this.

Mr. CASE. Also several books which might be minute books?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; minute books, records of campaigns that were conducted.

Mr. CASE. Folders containing letters?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; and credentials, scripts of radio broadcasts about which I have testified here, and so forth.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have identified these documents which you have brought here under subpoena as records of what organizations?

Mr. CVETIC. The Civil Rights Congress; the American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania; and when I mentioned Progressive Party records, they are the work of the American Slav Congress in the Progressive Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. How did you select these particular documents to remove?

Mr. CVETIC. You see, we closed the American Slav Congress office, and all the records were then kept at 943 Liberty Avenue, and at 943 Liberty Avenue there is a travel bureau conducted by Milo Mamula, and the rear of the room is used by the Communist Party for meetings and educational work.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the office of the American Slav Congress closed after the report made by this committee last year?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. We closed it after that report.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, the staff has not had an opportunity to check these records or to analyze them. We desire to do that and probably to recall this witness from time to time in matters relating to these records.

Mr. WALTER. I think they should be carefully examined and put in a safe place, but we will retain the records here for the time being.

Mr. CASE. You were directed to take these?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I was directed to remove them. The reason was, there was a travel bureau there, and the Communist Party conducted educational and other meetings there, and I was told to remove these records.

Mr. CASE. And the person who directed you to take them had authority to do that?

Mr. CVETIC. When we talk about authority, it is in the form of directives, and when William Albertson sent instructions to remove them, it was a directive.

Mr. CASE. He was custodian of them and told you to remove them?

Mr. CVETIC. No. Milo Mamula was the custodian, and Albertson sent word through Mamula to remove them. Actually, I tried my best to keep from removing them, but they forced me, so I took them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, is there anything else you would like to add to the testimony you have given here?

Mr. CVETIC. I would like to say this, that after 7 years' membership in the Communist Party, attending classes, Party meetings, I think I can state with good authority that the Communist Party's only interest in the trade-union movement, in mass organizations, in church organizations, in veteran organizations, is to utilize them in their aim to overthrow the United States Government.

I know that the average American, like the people all over the world, are interested in peace, as we all are; however, the phony peace drives organized by the Communist Party in the United States are organized for the sole purpose of disarming the majority of the American people in order to make it easier for them to bring communism to America.

At a meeting which I attended recently, and that was about 3 months ago, of the North Side section committee, Bill Albertson, district secretary of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania, in

asking Bill Gordon and John Vidmar to visit a couple of clergymen in West Side Pittsburgh for the purpose of organizing a peace front, said to Bill Gordon and John Vidmar: "You don't have to tell the clergymen you contact to induce them to front for a peace organization what our real aims and program are." They are interested in organizing a peace drive, but we are told to keep our real aim from the people.

Mr. CASE. Who said that?

Mr. CVETIC. William Albertson, district secretary.

Mr. CASE. To whom did he say it?

Mr. CVETIC. There were six of us at the meeting. I was at the meeting. These were instructions to Bill Gordon, an organizer for the Communist Party, and John Vidmar, who is now section secretary of the North Side section of the Communist Party.

Mr. CASE. Did you hear Albertson say that?

Mr. CVETIC. I was at the meeting when he said it. This was at 943 Liberty Avenue.

Mr. CASE. And when was that?

Mr. CVETIC. That was 2 or 3 months ago. It was one of the last North Side section committee meetings that I attended.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you anything further you wish to say?

Mr. CVETIC. If there are no questions, I would like to make a closing statement.

Mr. WALTER. Proceed.

Mr. CVETIC. Now that I have made my story public I expect to be the victim of what is known as Communist character assassination, which is the standard Communist Party procedure when one renounces his Communist Party affiliations. I have sat at meetings and heard Communist Party leaders and members refer to the House Un-American Activities Committee, to the FBI, to J. Edgar Hoover, and to any official of the Government or citizen who actively fights communism in the most vicious and derogatory terms they had at their disposal.

I came down here because I believe the best interests of the American people can be served by exposing communism through such committees as the House Un-American Activities Committee, so that the American people can understand that it is a real menace to our country.

I have been asked the question whether I think the Communist Party should be outlawed. My answer to such a question is this: That it is very difficult to outlaw a name. It is very simple to change a name from communism to Stalinism, to Molotovism, or to some other such "ism."

What I feel Congress should do in legislating in this particular instance is to outlaw the activity itself and not the name. I will, before I leave the committee, leave what I consider effective legislative proposals based on my 9 years' experience.

I believe the best fight against communism is for labor, management, agriculture, and government to cooperate in a common effort for the common and continued welfare of America. Of course, all people are interested in peace, but I think we can best assure peace to our Nation and to the world by making certain that our rights and privileges as exist today are not destroyed as they would be under a Communist dictatorship.

Mr. WALTER. Mr. Cvetic, in behalf of the Committee on Un-American Activities I wish to thank you for your testimony during the past 3 days. In your own quiet and methodical way you have given us a clear insight into the conspiratorial depths of the Communist Party. You have shown us how they operate by stealth and evasion through false-front organizations, particularly among the foreign-born Slavic groups of our population.

You have described from your own first-hand knowledge how the Communist operate in the trade-unions of Pittsburgh, masking their subversive aims behind a pretense of friendliness to labor.

You have revealed for the benefit of the people of Pittsburgh those who actually pull the strings of the Communist conspiracy in that great city. For the people of the United States you have sketched a pattern of activities which holds true for other cities.

We cannot be oblivious to the remarkable courage you have displayed. You have given the American people an outstanding example of personal bravery which we cannot but appreciate. We congratulate you on your contribution to the work of the Committee on Un-American Activities and assure you that the testimony you have given here will serve as a significant chapter in the effort to enlighten the American people as to the true nature of the Communist conspiracy.

The meeting is adjourned.

(Thereupon, at 3:35 p. m. on Thursday, February 23, 1950, an adjournment was taken.)

EXPOSÉ OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BASED UPON THE TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC (UNDERCOVER AGENT)

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1950

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D. C.
PUBLIC HEARING

MORNING SESSION

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:45 a. m. in room 226, Old House Office Building, Hon. John S. Wood (chairman) presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives John S. Wood (chairman), Francis E. Walter, Burr P. Harrison, Morgan M. Moulder, and Harold H. Velde.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., counsel; Donald T. Appell and W. Jackson Jones, investigators; John W. Carrington, clerk; Benjamin Mandel, director of research; and A. S. Poore, editor.

Mr. Wood. Let the committee be in order. Let the record disclose that a quorum is present, consisting of Messrs. Walter, Harrison, Moulder, Velde, and Wood. Proceed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Jones.

Mr. Wood. Will you hold up your right hand, please. You solemnly swear the evidence you give this committee shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. JONES. I do.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, on February 25, 1950, at 10:35 p. m., a Plymouth coach bearing New York license 7G30-33 struck a safety pylon in Pittsburgh, Pa. The car, driven by Charles Tronick, aged 26, of 734 Hymen Street, Bay Shore, N. Y., had as occupants Adolph Hazel, aged 22, of 105-32 One Hundred and Seventy-second Street, Jamaica, N. Y.; Raymond Shear, aged 21, of 90-19 One Hundred and Forty-eighth Street, Jamaica, N. Y.; Jack Jaffe, aged 19, of 110 Mount Hope Place, Bronx, N. Y.; and Lillian Lewis, aged 22, of 1065 Monteray Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

In this vehicle there were found numerous documents which related to the Labor Youth League of Western Pennsylvania. Also in the car were found a spade and a box of dirt, indicating the possibility of an intention to destroy documents by burning and covering the ashes with dirt. The local police of the city of Pittsburgh impounded the car and the documents that were found in it. As you will recall, a subpoena duces tecum was issued for the purpose of producing the documents that were found in the car. In that connection, I would like to ask Mr. Jones several questions.

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM JACKSON JONES

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your full name?

Mr. JONES. William Jackson Jones.

Mr. TAVENNER. You are an investigator for this committee?

Mr. JONES. I am.

Mr. TAVENNER. A subpoena duces tecum was issued by the chairman for the production of the records taken from the car which was operated as I have just explained on the 25th of February 1950 and which was involved in a wreck in the city of Pittsburgh. Did you serve the subpoena in that case on the chief of police of the city of Pittsburgh?

Mr. JONES. The subpoena was served on February 28, 1950, and I received these documents from Inspector Geizel of the Pittsburgh Police Department.

Mr. TAVENNER. These are the records you obtained as a result of that subpoena?

Mr. JONES. These are the documents that were turned over to me.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is all.

Mr. WOOD. Any questions?

Mr. WALTER. No.

Mr. HARRISON. No questions.

Mr. MOULDER. No questions.

Mr. VELDE. I have none.

Mr. WOOD. Thank you.

(Witness excused.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic.

Mr. WOOD. Mr. Cvetic has already been sworn.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

Mr. WOOD. It will not be necessary to swear him again.

TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC

Mr. TAVENNER. You are Matthew Cvetic?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I am.

Mr. TAVENNER. And I believe you testified before the committee on February 22, 1950?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have testified, I believe, regarding your knowledge of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania and the nationality commission of the Communist Party, both national and local. At the time you testified you presented the committee, in accordance with the subpoena served upon you, documents relating to the American Slav Congress, the Progressive Party, and the Civil Rights Congress. In addition to the documents supplied by you, Mr. Cvetic, the committee has obtained documents from George Dietze, who was a witness before the Committee on Un-American Activities last Monday and who, like yourself, was a member of the Communist Party and at the same time an undercover agent of the Federal Government. It is with respect to the documents furnished by you and other documents in the committee's possession, including those which have just been identified by Mr. William Jackson Jones, investigator, that the committee desires to question you.

Mr. Cvetic, one of the documents found in the files of the Labor Youth League which was produced by Mr. Jones is entitled "Draft

Principles," which I desire to offer in evidence and have it marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 2," No. 1 having been introduced in evidence when you testified at an earlier date.

Mr. WOOD. Without objection it will be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 2," is filed herewith.) ¹

Mr. TAVENNER. This document reads in part as follows:

The Labor Youth League works for a peaceful, secure, and happy life for every young American—worker, student, veteran, farmer.

It educates youth in a spirit of devotion to the working people. It bases its program on the proposition that the needs and desires of the youth are bound up inseparably with the immediate and fundamental interests of the working class. It recognizes the working class as the source of progress in the modern world, as the defender of the democratic traditions of our country, as the force capable of assuring lasting peace. Therefore, it stimulates interest in, and study of, Marxism, Leninism, and educates youth in the principles of scientific socialism—the beacon light and historic goal of the working class.

I hand you this document, Mr. Cvetic, and ask you if it is the principles of the organization delivered at the organizational meeting held at the Fort Pitt Hotel during the summer of 1949, as to which you have previously testified, and also ask you to identify the person who presented these principles at the meeting.

Mr. CVETIC. Mr. Chairman, these are the Draft Principles which were presented at the organizational meeting of the Labor Youth League at Pittsburgh by Harold Orzick, the Communist Party youth organizer in western Pennsylvania. This was in the summer of 1949. I think, for clarity, I should point out that there is a difference between Communist-front organizations such as the Labor Youth League and organizations which the Communist Party infiltrates, like trade-unions. The Labor Youth League was a front organization set up specifically by the Communist Party for the purpose of being the Communist Party instrument in the colleges, high schools, and so forth, to stimulate interest in the study of Marxism and Leninism.

Mr. MOULDER. Mr. Tavenner asked you who presented the principles contained in that document at the meeting.

Mr. WOOD. He named him.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think the witness stated the name. Will you state it again?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Harold Orzick, the Communist Party youth organizer for western Pennsylvania.

Mr. MOULDER. I didn't hear that.

Mr. TAVENNER. I show you a document entitled "Program of Action of the Komsomol" and ask you to fully identify this document and explain to the committee its use as related to the activities of the Labor Youth League.

Before you answer the question, I desire to offer it in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 3."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 3," is filed herewith.) ²

Mr. CVETIC. This document, which is the address of J. V. Stalin to the Eighth Congress of the Young Communist League of the Soviet

¹ See appendix.

² See appendix.

Union, was issued by the education department, New York Organizing Committee for a Labor Youth League, 799 Broadway, New York 3, N. Y. This document, which is a speech by J. V. Stalin, stresses the importance of the international Communist youth movement. The Komsomol, K-o-m-s-o-m-o-l, is the name by which the international youth organization is known in Communist circles. This document was issued by the education department. It is used in educational work in the Labor Youth League more or less as the principles of that organization.

Mr. TAVENNER. Knowing the organization of this youth movement as you do, can you state whether or not documents similar to this were distributed among all of the local organizations of the Labor Youth League?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This particular document is limited to the chief organizers. It is not for general distribution to the membership. In other words, this particular document is limited to the western Pennsylvania organizer.

Mr. TAVENNER. I show you another document entitled "Building the Labor Youth League, a Guide for Club Membership Directors" and ask you to outline the methods of recruiting as shown in this publication, which I offer in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 4."

Mr. WOOD. It will be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 4," is filed herewith.)³

Mr. CVETIC. Recruiting for the Labor Youth League is usually carried on under a subterfuge. For example, Communist Party organizers are assigned to universities, colleges, and high schools to carry the party line. In some of their work they do distribute literature, but their work in recruiting is to find, as a result of the distribution of this literature, the youth who may show some sympathy for the Communist propaganda which they distribute. Of course they don't immediately ask them to join the Communist Party, but they organize dances, bowling leagues, church socials, and so on. They don't organize them, but attend them and organize small groups and bring the youth closer to the Communist Party. After several contacts they may invite them to an open meeting of the party, where the party line is watered down.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know Lillian Lewis, one of the occupants of the automobile that was involved in the accident of February 25, 1950?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Lillian Lewis is a member of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania and the organizational secretary of the Labor Youth League in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I now offer in evidence a receipt showing the sale of stamps to the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 623, 401 Federal Street, Pittsburgh 12, Pa., dated February 24, 1950, which was among the personal effects of Lillian Lewis found in the wrecked automobile, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 5."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 5," is filed herewith.)⁴

³ See appendix.

⁴ See appendix.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, the committee has several documents which refer to a membership meeting, district conference of Labor Youth League of western Pennsylvania. One document is a throw-away announcing the meeting, signed by Lilly Lewis as organizational secretary. I desire to offer this in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 6."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 6," is filed herewith.) ⁵

Mr. TAVENNER. Another is a speech which was apparently made at this meeting by Lilly Lewis, which I offer in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 7."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 7," is filed herewith.) ⁶

Mr. TAVENNER. The last document appears to be the minutes of the meeting held on February 12, 1950, which minutes reflect that the meeting was opened at 12:30 p. m. by "Sonny." I desire to offer this document in evidence, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 8."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 8," is filed herewith.) ⁷

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know the person referred to in "Cvetic Exhibit No. 8" as "Sonny"?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I attended meetings of the Labor Youth League. "Sonny" is the nickname of Harold Orzick, who is the Communist Party youth organizer in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. The "Sonny" to whom you refer holds what position in the Labor Youth League?

Mr. CVETIC. When I was in Pittsburgh, Sonny Orzick was the organizer in the Labor Youth League. I understand since I left Pittsburgh he has become in disfavor in Pittsburgh and he has been replaced since this February 12 meeting.

Mr. TAVENNER. The minutes of the meeting of February 12, 1950, as shown by Cvetic Exhibit No. 8, reflect that a total of 17 people attended, representing the areas of Hill, South Side, McKeesport, and one National Labor Youth League and one fraternal representative of the Communist Party. A person whose name is referred to as "Jerry," according to these minutes, was elected chairman, and a person referred to as "Bernie" was named recording secretary. Could you identify for the committee the true names of "Jerry," the chairman, and "Bernie," the recording secretary?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. "Jerry" in the Labor Youth League is Jerry Grushka. "Bernie" is Bernie Silas from McKeesport. I might add here that I know both of these people to be members of the Communist Party, because I attended Communist Party functionary meetings with them in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. There were other members elected to the organizing committee, shown by this report as Herbert "W." Ed Nixon, and Ruth "G." Do you know the full names of these individuals?

⁵ See appendix.

⁶ See appendix.

⁷ See appendix.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Herbert "W." would be Herbert Walker.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he known to you to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; he is a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you know that?

Mr. CVETIC. Because I attended Communist Party functionary meetings with Herbert Walker. And Ruth "G." would be Ruth Goldworth.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know her to be a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I do.

Mr. TAVENNER. Reference is made to Ed Nixon. Is he, to your knowledge, a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you know that?

Mr. CVETIC. I attended Communist Party functionary meetings with Ed Nixon.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is Ed Nixon his full name?

Mr. CVETIC. His full name is Edwin Nixon.

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you know Ruth Goldworth is a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. I attended Communist Party functionary meetings with Ruth Goldworth.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a copy of a publication entitled "Challenge" and ask you to identify it.

Mr. CVETIC. This is the official publication of the Labor Youth League.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the date of the issue?

Mr. CVETIC. March 1950.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is that the first issue of the publication?

Mr. CVETIC. This is the first issue. This is a new publication.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 9."

Mr. WOOD. I understand that is the first issue of this publication of the Labor Youth League?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted, without objection.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 9," is filed herewith.)⁸

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you look at that publication again and state to the committee what books are recommended in this issue for reading by the members of the Labor Youth League?

Mr. CVETIC. Here are some of the books which are recommended in this publication for reading, under the caption: "These Books: Push Back Horizons; Change the World; Transform People."

The Communist Manifesto, by Karl Marx and Frederick Engels. Socialism, Utopian and Scientific, by Frederick Engels.

The Young Generation, by V. I. Lenin.

Tasks of the Youth, by Joseph Stalin.

Dialectical and Historical Materialism, by Joseph Stalin.

Literature of the Graveyard, by Roger Garudy.

Intellectuals in the Fight for Peace, by Howard Fast.

⁸ See appendix.

The Negro People and the Soviet Union, by Paul Robeson.

The Citizen Writer, by Albert Maltz.

These are some of the books that are listed here.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, all these documents are among those identified by Mr. Jones as having been produced, in response to the subpoena duces tecum, by the Pittsburgh Police Department.

Mr. Cvetic, I show you another document obtained from the wrecked automobile, which is a membership break-down of the Labor Youth League as of December 5, 1949, prepared by the National Organizing Conference of the Labor Youth League, 799 Broadway, New York 3, N. Y., which I offer in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 10."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted, without objection.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 10," is filed herewith.)⁹

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine that document and state what the break-down shows for western Pennsylvania and eastern Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. This document, which is entitled "Membership List of the National Organizing Conference of the Labor Youth League," is broken down to show number employed, college unemployed, high school, and total. For eastern Pennsylvania there is no break-down, but a total of 143 members is shown. For western Pennsylvania a total membership of 43 is shown, broken down as follows: Employed, 20; college, 9; unemployed, 12; high school, 2.

This document also shows the break-down of membership of the Labor Youth League on the west coast and other States.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you give the committee that break-down?

Mr. CVETIC. California, Alameda County, total membership 66, broken down as follows: Employed, 21; college, 7; unemployed, 19; high school, 19.

California, Los Angeles, total 467 members, broken down as follows: Employed, 151; college, 96; unemployed, 159; high school, 61.

California, San Francisco, total 86, no break-down.

Connecticut, total membership 84, broken down as follows: Employed, 37; college, 17; unemployed, 25; high school, 5.

Illinois, total membership 256, broken down as follows: Employed, 123; college, 60; unemployed, 53; high school, 20.

Indiana, a total of 10 members, with no break-down.

Massachusetts, total of 101 members: Employed, 44; college students, 22; unemployed, 32; high-school students, 3.

Michigan, total of 159 members: Employed, 88; college students, 24; unemployed, 42; high-school students, 5.

New Jersey, total membership of 153, broken down as follows: Employed, 64; college students, 15; unemployed, 60; high-school students, 14.

New York, total members 2,014: Employed, 847; college students, 396; unemployed, 561; high-school students, 210.

Ohio, 187 total membership, broken down as follows: Employed, 79; college, 20; unemployed, 72; high school, 16.

Texas, total membership 18: Employed, 4; college, 10; unemployed, 4; high school, none.

⁹ See appendix.

Washington, D. C., total membership 58: Employed, 35; college, 16; unemployed, 7; high school, none.

The total as of December 5, 1949, 3,660 members.

I would like to add here that from my information and contacts with the Labor Youth League, many of these people listed unemployed are used as part time paid functionaries by the Labor Youth League. For example, they sent a number in the coal area 2 or 3 weeks ago, and they are subsidized for their food and keep, and so on.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, the membership figures just quoted by Mr. Cvetic are shown to be as of December 5, 1949. I have also a statement which is undated, but which could not have been prepared later than the middle of February 1950, which shows a substantial increase in that membership, which I desire to offer in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 11."

Mr. WOOD. It will be admitted, without objection.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 11," is filed herewith.¹⁰)

Mr. TAVENNER. I will not attempt to read the entire statistical break-down, but will state that the total membership shown is 5,879 as against 3,660 on December 5, 1949. For the information of the committee, I would like to make a comparison between these two reports, setting forth the increases only in membership in colleges and high schools.

In Alameda County, Calif., the December report shows 7 college students and 19 high-school students. The increase since then is 43 college students and 4 high-school students.

In Los Angeles, Calif., the increase is 9 college students and 14 high-school students.

In San Francisco, Calif., the increase is one high-school student.

In Connecticut the increase is one college student.

In Illinois the increase is seven college students.

In Massachusetts the increase is one college student and two high-school students.

In Michigan the increase is one college student and four high-school students.

In New Jersey the increase is two college students and two high-school students.

In New York the increase is 337 college students and 168 high-school students.

In Ohio the increase is four college students and five high-school students.

And in Texas the increase is three college students.

On the December 5 list no break-down was given for eastern Pennsylvania. The later report shows for eastern Pennsylvania 54 college students and 12 high-school students.

The later report also includes the State of Utah with two college students, and the State of Wisconsin with three college students and two high-school students.

Mr. Cvetic, I hand you a document prepared by the National Organizing Conference of the Labor Youth League as of December 5, 1949, which is a financial statement of its \$50,000 organizing fund drive, which I offer in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 12."

¹⁰ See appendix.

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 12," is filed herewith.) ¹¹

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine that report and state what the status of the fund drive was reported to be for western and eastern Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The quota in the national fund drive as of December 5, 1949, for eastern Pennsylvania was \$4,000; the quota to the national office being \$1,600. In other words, the report designates that of the \$4,000 quota, \$1,600 was to go to the national office. Of that quota of \$4,000, eastern Pennsylvania, up to December 5, 1949, raised \$300.

Western Pennsylvania had a quota of \$800; quota to national office, \$200; and up to December 5, 1949, raised \$62.22.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you give the break-down of the allocation to the various States and the amounts contributed to this fund as shown by this report?

Mr. CVETIC. California, Los Angeles: Quota, \$6,000; quota to national office, \$2,400; total raised to date, \$1,418.15; total sent to national office, \$567.26.

Connecticut: Quota, \$2,000; quota to national office, \$800; total raised to date, \$308; total sent to national office, \$15.

Michigan: Quota, \$3,000; quota to national office, \$1,200; total raised to date, \$1,211; total sent to national office, \$350.

Minnesota: Quota, \$1,000; quota to national office, \$400; total raised to date, \$79.60; total sent to national office, \$31.84.

New Jersey: Quota, \$2,500; quota to national office, \$1,000; total raised to date, \$683.25; total sent to national office, \$273.30.

New York: Quota, \$30,000; quota to national office, \$10,000; total raised to date, \$30,000; total sent to national office, \$10,000.

Ohio: Quota, \$3,000; quota to national office, \$1,200; total raised to date, \$429; total sent to national office, \$120.

Washington, D. C.: No quotas listed, but they sent \$15.95 to the national office.

Listed here also are Alameda, Calif.; San Francisco, Calif.; and the State of Illinois, with no quotas and no results posted on this report.

The total sent to the national office in the \$50,000 fund drive is \$11,735.57.

Mr. TAVENNER. In other words, that figure is not the total amount raised, but the amount sent to the national office?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. What amount does the report show was raised?

Mr. CVETIC. \$34,507.17, of which \$11,735.57 went to the national \$50,000 organizing fund drive.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, during the week of February 12, 1950, the United States nationally observed Brotherhood Week. The National Organizing Conference for the Labor Youth League also ordered its State organizations to stage a Negro History Week celebration. In this connection I desire to offer in evidence a letter relating to this matter, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 13."

Mr. WOOD. Without objection it will be admitted.

¹¹ See appendix.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 13," is filed herewith.¹²)

Mr. TAVENNER. The Labor Youth League files which are in the committee's possession contain material sent to Pittsburgh by the national organization for this purpose. One mimeographed outline, entitled "How to Run a Model Meeting Around Negro History Week," is available to us, and I desire to offer it in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 14."

Mr. Wood. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 14," is filed herewith.)¹³

Mr. TAVENNER. This "Cvetic Exhibit No. 14," in addition to constituting a general outline for a meeting, contains questions and answers in the form of a quiz. I would like to quote a few questions and answers from this outline in order to show that the Labor Youth League is nothing but the publicity agent for the Communist Party. One question reads:

What political party nominated a Negro for Vice President in the thirties? The answer being:

The Communist Party nominated James W. Ford on its 1932 ticket, with William Z. Foster as presidential candidate.

Another question reads:

What constitution makes it a crime to favor any inequality against any people?

Answer:

The Constitution of the U. S. S. R.

In this connection, Mr. Chairman, the committee heard Mr. Cvetic last week quote from the Constitution of the U. S. S. R. on its advocacy of the forceful overthrow of capitalism.

This same questionnaire is used as an attack on the CIO. For example, this question is asked:

Are there any Negroes in the top CIO Executive Board?

Answer:

No. Ever since the removal of Ferdinand Smith from the National Maritime Union no Negro sits on the top CIO Executive Board.

Another question reads:

What strange sight can be seen in the southern organizing drive's headquarters of the CIO in Tennessee?

Answer:

Jim Crow signs labeled "Colored" and "White."

In this latter connection, Mr. Chairman, I should like to refer back to "Dietze Exhibit No. 1" introduced in evidence when he testified. This exhibit was his Communist Party membership book for the year 1944, and it designates whether the individual is white or Negro, which is the same thing that they accuse the CIO of doing in Tennessee.

¹² See appendix.

¹³ See appendix.

Dealing further with the Negro question, the Labor Youth League files contain a memorandum, entitled "Struggle for the Rights of the Negro People," which I desire to offer in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 15."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 15," is filed herewith.) ¹⁴

Mr. TAVENNER. This memorandum was addressed "To All Districts" and is signed by Benjamin J. Davis, chairman, and Pettis Perry, secretary, National Negro Commission.

Mr. Cvetic, is the National Negro Commission a commission of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; it is. The Communist Party has a National Negro Commission functioning in the United States.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was Benjamin J. Davis the chairman of that Commission?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. We have a document here entitled "Struggle for the Rights of the Negro People," which was circulated among the members of the Labor Youth League, signed by the National Negro Commission of the Communist Party. Is the Benjamin J. Davis whose name appears on this document as chairman of the National Negro Commission the same person who was recently found guilty in a Federal court for conspiring to forcefully overthrow the Government of the United States?

Mr. CVETIC. I know Benjamin J. Davis very well, having attended Communist Party meetings with him. He is the same person.

Mr. TAVENNER. On the same subject, Mr. Chairman, there is a memorandum from the national office of the Labor Youth League to all State Labor Youth League organizations on books and pamphlets, which I desire to offer in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 16."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 16," is filed herewith.) ¹⁵

Mr. TAVENNER. This memorandum refers the State organizations to the back cover of the January 1950 issue of Political Affairs for some very important and basic works of interest to all league members. Political Affairs is an official publication of the Communist Party of the United States. In addition to the books and pamphlets listed on the back cover of the January 1950 issue of Political Affairs, the memorandum also recommends Marxism and the Racial Question, by Joseph Stalin, and The Path of Negro Liberation, by Benjamin J. Davis. Other recommended books are by such authors as Harry Haywood, Herbert Aptheker, James S. Allen, Elwood Dean, Philip Foner, Earl Conrad, and Elizabeth Lawson.

Mr. Cvetic, in Budapest, Hungary, in September 1949, there was held the Second Congress of the World Federation of Democratic Youth. I have here a document obtained from the same sources entitled "Manifesto and Resolution of the Second Congress of the World Federation of Democratic Youth," which I desire to offer in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 17."

¹⁴ See appendix.

¹⁵ See appendix.

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted, without objection.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 17," is filed herewith.¹⁶)

Mr. TAVENNER. In the files which you turned over to the committee there appear ballots sponsored by the Western Pennsylvania Youth Committee for Peace for the selection of a delegate to the Budapest conference, which show the contestants for selection as delegate. These contestants are shown as Peggy Russinko, Ann Perpich, and Jean Vidmar. I desire to offer these ballots in evidence, and ask that they be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 18."

Mr. WOOD. They will be admitted.

(The documents above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 18," are filed herewith.)¹⁷

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, will you outline to the committee any knowledge you have of the arrangement and selection of a delegate to the Budapest conference of the World Federation of Democratic Youth? In other words, was it a real contest for selection by the party's participation in it, or not?

Mr. CVETIC. I will gladly tell the committee about this particular campaign, because I think it is very interesting. First, the three people listed on this document are members of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania. I have attended many Communist Party meetings with them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do their pictures appear as contestants for delegate to the Budapest conference?

Mr. CVETIC. Their pictures appear as applicants, applicants 1, 2, and 3. The way this campaign was organized, I think would be of interest to the committee to show how the Communist Party organizes campaigns and sometimes fools the American people. This particular campaign took 2 months to set up. The delegate was selected by the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania about 2 months before the campaign got under way.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long?

Mr. CVETIC. Two months. We held two or three meetings of the national youth commission of the Communist Party and went over prospective candidates on the basis of Communist Party understanding; in other words, who would be best able to come back to the United States and bring back here what she saw from our viewpoint. The person who was selected long before this was prepared and before any ballots were sent to the organization was candidate No. 2, Ann Perpich. Ann Perpich, for the information of this committee, was employed in the Progressive Party office as administrative secretary. She was also employed at the Language Press at 1916 East Street; and up until the Stalin-Tito break she was employed at the Yugoslav Embassy at Washington, D. C. A total of \$600 or \$700 was raised with this balloting and was instrumental in financing the trip of this delegate who was selected by the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania, and irrespective of how the balloting went. I mean, we didn't even count ballots; we just turned the money over to her to go to Budapest.

¹⁶ See appendix.

¹⁷ See appendix.

Mr. WOOD. In other words, as I understand, the other candidates listed here were pure dummies?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. It was a phony campaign from the start, just as the phony peace drives.

Mr. TAVENNER. So, members who thought they were voting for candidates for delegate actually were not voting for them at all?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. It was a money-raising function to raise funds to send a delegate selected by the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania to Budapest.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe you said the three candidates whose names appear on the ballots are all known to you as members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Also included in the files of the Labor Youth League was a checkbook which I desire to offer in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 19."

Mr. WOOD. It will be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 19," is filed herewith.)¹⁸

Mr. TAVENNER. This is a checkbook which purports to belong to Harold Orzick, whom you have identified as organizing chairman of the Labor Youth League in Pittsburgh, Pa., I believe?

Mr. CVETIC. He was the Communist Party youth organizer in western Pennsylvania, and up until I left Pittsburgh he was organizer of the Labor Youth League.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you this checkbook and ask you to identify the entries contained therein.

(Representative Moulder leaves hearing room.)

Mr. CVETIC. This is a checkbook of the Peoples First National Bank & Trust Co. in account with Harold Orzick, account No. 1771.

There is an entry on June 28, 1949, "Pay to Ed Nixon, \$10."

Check No. 3, August 12, 1949, "Pay to LYL"—Labor Youth League—" \$18.22 for fund drive."

Mr. TAVENNER. Ed Nixon is a person you have already identified as a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I have.

Check No. 4, "Pay to LYL, \$44 for fund drive."

Check No. 7, "Pay to Sonny," which is the alias of Harold Orzick, "\$30 for a trip," destination of the trip not stated.

Check No. 8, dated October 5, 1949, "Pay to Sonny" again, in amount of \$30, for another trip, destination of trip not stated.

Check No. 9, October 13, 1949, "Pay to Lillie," the alias of Lillian Lewis, "\$2.84 for rental of post-office box."

Check No. 11, dated October 22, 1949, "Pay to George Dietze, \$2 for rent for classes, 943 Liberty Avenue," which was the meeting place of the Communist Party where classes were held.

Mr. HARRISON. Dietze is the witness who testified here the other day?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. Check No. 13, "Pay to Sonny, for expenses to Cleveland, \$5." This is dated October 24, 1949.

¹⁸ See appendix.

Check No. 14, November 3, 1949, "Pay to Lillie, for expenses to South Side and speaker for October 30, 1949, \$4."

Check No. 15, November 4, 1949, "Pay to George Dietze, for rent for meetings and classes," and the dates are October 30, 1949, and another date which looks like November 4, 1949; total \$3.

Check No. 16, dated November 11, 1949, "Pay to Ruth Williams, 30 percent of \$19 for fund drive, South Side, \$5.70."

Check No. 17, dated November 17, 1949, "Pay to William Albertson"—and, Mr. Chairman, I testified earlier that William Albertson is district secretray of the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania—" \$11.40."

Check No. 18, dated November 22, 1949, "Payable to cash, for Sonny, expenses for trip to Johnstown, November 21, 1949, \$6.35."

And there is one signed check.

MR. TAVENNER. I hand you a brown stenographic notebook which was contained in the files of the Labor Youth League obtained under subpoena as mentioned before, which I desire to offer in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 20."

MR. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 20," is filed herewith.)¹⁹

MR. TAVENNER. Will you examine that book and see if you can identify the persons whose names appear therein. Are the persons whose names appear therein known to you?

MR. CVETIC. Yes. I see several names on the third page.

MR. TAVENNER. Are you able to identify any persons whose names are contained in that book as persons who attended Communist Party functionary meetings with you and who are known by you to be members of the Communist Party?

MR. CVETIC. Yes. I see several names here of persons I can testify to as attending Communist Party functionary meetings with me. I can start on the inside cover. There is an entry UE with the name Mugford. In Pittsburgh, I attended a Communist Party class with Walter Mugford, who was a Communist Party organizer in UE. This was a Communist Party class.

MR. TAVENNER. What year was that?

MR. CVETIC. January, February, and March 1949. The class was held at 440 Wood Street, on the third floor.

Then there is Becky Horowitz listed in this book, who is also a member of the Communist Party.

I read these names on the basis of Communist Party membership and with whom I have attended Communist Party functionary meetings:

Hy Schlessinger, a Communist Party member;

Alex Steinberg, a Communist Party member;

Martha Hubscher, a Communist Party member, whose maiden name was Novak;

Nick Lazaris, Hotel and Restaurant Workers, whom I previously identified as a member of the Communist Party;

Allen Thomas, Communist Party organizer in the Crucible Steel Co., Pittsburgh;

Viola—I know a Viola Schmidt active in the Labor Youth League who was a member of the Communist Party;

¹⁹ See appendix.

Glickman—I know a Herbert Glickman. He was a Communist Party organizer in Washington County until a couple years ago; then they sent him to Pittsburgh.

Mr. Chairman, those are all the names I identify in this exhibit.

Mr. TAVENNER. I now hand you a green stenographic notebook which was contained in the same files. I desire to offer it in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 21."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 21," is filed herewith.)²⁰

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine it, please, and see if you can identify any names appearing in it of persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

(Representative Harrison leaves hearing room.)

Mr. CVETIC. I see the names of several persons I can testify attended Communist Party functionary meetings with me. The organizing committee is listed in first names.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like for you to mention all of these.

(Representative Walter leaves hearing room.)

Mr. CVETIC. The organizing committee for Hill: Ruth, Herb, Eddie. Ruth was Ruth Goldworth. Herb was Herbert Walker. Eddie was Ed Nixon.

Jerry Grushka. I know him to be a Communist Party member. His wife, Lila, is not listed here, but she is also a party member.

Jack Begler, 1551 Dennison Street, is also a Communist Party organizer.

Ida Bortz is also a member of the Communist Party. She is the wife of Lou Bortz, who was identified by me 2 weeks ago as being a Communist Party member.

Ruth Kish, a Communist Party member.

Joe Mankin, a Communist Party member; and his wife, Agnes Mankin, is also a Communist Party member.

Herb Glickman, a Communist Party member.

Alex Steinberg, a Communist Party member.

(Representative Walter returns to hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. I now hand you a list which purports to be names and addresses of Labor Youth League members in western Pennsylvania, which was likewise obtained from the wrecked automobile. I ask you to review this list and advise the committee whether or not you can identify any of the names as persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party, and, if so, state who they are. First, I desire to offer this document in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 22."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 22," is filed herewith.)²¹

(Representative Velde leaves hearing room.)

Mr. CVETIC. The following people on this list of Labor Youth League members are members of the Communist Party and take an active part in Communist Party work: Ann Perpich, Peggy Russinko,

²⁰ See appendix.

²¹ See appendix.

Evelyn Abelson, Ida M. Lewis, Edwin F. Nixon, Lillian B. Lewis—I previously mentioned her as organizational secretary of the Labor Youth League of western Pennsylvania; Ruth Goldworth, and Peter Albertson, who is the son of William Albertson, the district secretary of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania.

(Representative Harrison returns to hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, the Labor Youth League files contain a form which reflects that Helen Kompus, of 510 North Negley Avenue, Pittsburgh, offered accommodations for one New York Labor Youth League member who was sent to Pittsburgh to work in mining. Will you identify Helen Kompus for the committee?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Helen Kompus is a member of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers' cell of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania. When I was a member of the same section, though not the same cell, I attended many Communist Party meetings with Helen Kompus.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer this form in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 23."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 23," is filed herewith.)²²

Mr. CVETIC. She is employed at the William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, in reviewing the files turned over to the committee, together with notes and memoranda which you might have in your possession, are you at this time able to identify any other members of the Communist Party who are also members of the Labor Youth League; that is, persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Esther Bliss is a member of the Labor Youth League and is also active in YPA.

Pearl Griffin is office secretary in the Progressive Party of western Pennsylvania and also active in YPA; that is, the Youth Progressives.

Eben Matles—

Mr. TAVENNER. How do you spell the first name?

Mr. CVETIC. E-b-e-n M-a-t-l-e-s. I have known him to be a Communist Party member active in youth work around the University of Pittsburgh. His wife, Maxine Matles, is employed as office secretary in the Communist of Western Pennsylvania.

I think that covers the known Communist Party members, as far as I am concerned, in the Labor Youth League.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I desire at this time to offer in evidence as one batch other papers and documents which were obtained in response to the subpoena duces tecum to which we referred, and ask that they be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 24" and that they be bound so that we can ascertain what is contained in that batch of papers.

Mr. WOOD. Let them be admitted.

(The papers above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 24," are filed herewith.)²³

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, this concludes the documentary evidence that we desired to introduce relating to the Labor Youth League.

²² See appendix.

²³ See appendix.

We would like now to proceed to the Civil Rights Congress documents which the committee has available.

Mr. WOOD. Very well. Proceed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, you have turned over to the committee and have previously identified certain documents of the Civil Rights Congress, have you not?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I have.

Mr. TAVENNER. Approximately when and under what circumstances was the Civil Rights Congress formed in Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. The Civil Rights Congress of Pittsburgh was formed about 5 years ago in the office of Hy Schlessinger. This Civil Rights Congress in Pittsburgh was organized at the request of the district organizer of the Communist Party. He called a meeting, to which he invited Tom Quinn, Communist Party member in UE; he invited myself as one of the leaders in the Slav groups; Pete Karpa, Communist Party organizer who invited me to this meeting, attended the meeting; and Hyman Schlessinger attended the meeting. There were four or five of us. They are the ones I can remember. Pete Karpa made some of the reports and Hy Schlessinger made some, stressing the importance of setting up a Civil Rights Congress in Pittsburgh.

At this meeting we went over the Communist Party membership in western Pennsylvania for the purpose of deciding which Communist Party members would be assigned to work in the Civil Rights Congress. This was the framework pattern used by the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania in setting up the Civil Rights Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is it not true that on May 27, 1948, an open hearing on civil rights was held in Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. That is true.

Mr. TAVENNER. There has been found in the data you have made available to the committee a letter in the files of the Civil Rights Congress dated April 24, 1948, which contains the names of the publicity committee. I desire to offer this letter in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 25."

Mr. WOOD. It will be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 25," is filed herewith.)²⁴

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you look at that letter and state to the committee the names of those selected for the publicity committee?

Mr. CVETIC. Those selected to serve on the publicity committee were: Bernice Hecker; Marian Wallace; Dr. Barron; myself; Dorothy Albert; and Chester Washington.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify any of those as persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Of these names I know Dorothy Albert to be a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. How many people attended this meeting of May 27, 1948, as nearly as you can recall?

Mr. CVETIC. About 200.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I have asked this question in order to bring out that on the following day a wire was sent to Senator Wiley, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which I now desire to introduce in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 26."

²⁴ See appendix.

Mr. WOOD. It will be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Svetic Exhibit No. 26," is filed herewith.) ²⁵

Mr. TAVENNER. The wire reads as follows:

MAY 28, 1948.

SENATOR ALEXANDER WILEY,

Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee,

Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.:

One thousand persons meeting Friday evening Wesley Center AME Zion Church unanimously scored Mundt-Nixon bill as exceedingly dangerous to American democracy. Call upon you to defeat bill in committee.

PITTSBURGH CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS,
THOMAS QUINN, *Chairman*,
MIRIAM B. SCHULTZ, *Acting Secretary*.

Mr. Cvetic, I now hand you a copy of a communication to Senator Wiley, also dated May 28, 1948, which I offer in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 27."

Mr. WOOD. It will be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 27," is filed herewith.) ²⁶

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please read this communication to Senator Wiley and identify the signers of the petition whom you know to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Ben Arshan.

Mr. TAVENNER. First will you read the contents of the petition to Senator Wiley.

Mr. CVETIC. This petition, which contains about 50 signatures, is addressed to Senator Alexander Wiley, chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.:

Mundt-Nixon bill undermines American democratic principles. Its parallel to German Nazi legislation is alarming. Imperative defend Bill of Rights; defeat Mundt bill in committee.

It is signed by about 50 people, of whom the following are Communist Party members:

Ben Arshan, who is a doctor, an optometrist;

Frances Dewey Begler, the wife of Jack Begler;

Alma Robinson, the wife of Joseph "Sonny" Robinson;

Ben Careathers, Communist Party organizer in western Pennsylvania;

Dorothy Albert;

Miss Pauline Slome, S-l-o-m-e;

Esther Bliss, whom I have previously identified as a Communist Party youth organizer;

Mark P. Lovett, North Side, Pittsburgh;

Alex Staber, a former Communist Party steel organizer recently transferred to United Electrical Workers;

Pauline Grant, maiden name Anomi, the wife of Dave Grant, former city secretary of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh and now an organizer in UE;

Rebecca Horowitz, who lives in Hazelwood, previously identified as Becky Horowitz, a member of the Communist Party;

Nathan Albert, Communist Party organizer in UE;

²⁵ See appendix.

²⁶ See appendix.

Regina Bakowski, who is now married and her married name is Rudiak, the wife of Joseph Rudiak, chairman of the American Slav Congress of western Pennsylvania.

Mr. Chairman, these are all the Communist Party members I can identify on this list.

Mr. TAVENNER. I show you four petitions which you presented as part of these records and have previously identified, being petitions against the passage of the Mundt-Nixon bill which were circulated by the Civil Rights Congress of Pittsburgh, and ask you to identify those whose names appear on these petitions whom you know to be members of the Communist Party. First, I desire to offer the four petitions as one exhibit, and ask that they be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 28."

Mr. WOOD. They will be admitted.

(The documents above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 28," are filed herewith.) ²⁷

Mr. CVETIC. This petition, which is headed "It's called the subversive Control Act of 1948 * * * But it is itself subversive!" and goes on to explain why it is subversive, and then states:

We, the undersigned, believing in the democratic traditions and practices of our country, do reject any bill which would accomplish the destruction of the Bill of Rights and the overthrow of American democratic government. We reject H. R. 5852 as a measure which would establish fascism in the United States.

We wish to support with our contributions below the fight which the Pittsburgh Civil Rights Congress is making against this police-state measure.

These were very broadly distributed. These are just a few that got in my hands. I can identify as members of the Communist Party the following, whose names appears on these lists:

Nathan Albert, youth organizer for the Communist Party;

Joe Chuplis, from Springdale, Pa., who is an old Communist Party member with whom I have attended many Communist Party meetings;

Rose Mazur, Springdale, Pa., active in IWO;

Pete Pradelli, also from Springdale, Pa.;

Louise Benjoies, B-e-n-j-o-i-e-s; that name is also spelled B-e-n-j-o-y-a; she is a Communist Party member sent to Pittsburgh to work in the Progressive Party during the Wallace campaign. She since has returned to New York, I understand.

This is only a small part of this particular campaign. This campaign was organized within the Civil Rights Congress by Roy Hudson, myself, and Miriam Schultz and others. All Civil Rights Congress activities in western Pennsylvania were organized by the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania in meetings held in the offices of the American Slav Congress, Communist Party headquarters in the Bake-well Building, or in one of the restaurants. One favorite place was Tambellini's on Fourth Avenue. We would discuss campaigns and take the program of the Civil Rights Congress meetings. Since Roy Hudson left, Steve Nelson and William Albertson have been organizing Civil Rights Congress activities in western Pennsylvania.

Mr. HARRISON. Who wrote the language?

Mr. CVETIC. We would sit down in the American Slav Congress and decide to have such a campaign. Steve Nelson, or Roy Hudson when he was in Pittsburgh, would stress the importance of the campaign and he would give the political language.

Mr. HARRISON. Who is "he"?

²⁷ See appendix.

Mr. CVETIC. The district organizer of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania. He would tell us what to put in. He wouldn't do the actual writing, but he would hand down the line, and Miriam Schultz, who was secretary at that time and who is a Communist Party member, would prepare such a document. More recently Milo Mamula, executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, has been meeting almost daily with Steve Nelson. They sit down and discuss and get out these campaigns. It is all done by the Communist Party. I think I testified here before, some of these committees, for example, the Civil Rights Congress in Pittsburgh has come to the sad state of being three or four Communist Party members, because the people have caught on to them.

Mr. HARRISON. What they will probably do now is organize another front?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. They try to get clergy and others in their fronts.

Mr. HARRISON. They have been fairly successful at that?

Mr. CVETIC. Up until now they have; yes. I think I testified I was a member of a labor press committee, and to this committee we only assigned two Communist Party members, myself and one more, and we were able to organize picnics for 1,000 people.

Mr. HARRISON. How do you get the names to organize the fronts?

Mr. CVETIC. Steve Nelson or Roy Hudson would make a list of people to invite. We would call them up or visit them and represent ourselves as citizens committees. You can go to anybody and tell them you are starting a peace campaign; everybody is for peace. We would sit down and say: "Let's make a list of names." We would set up a peace committee against the war makers. A person who may be unsuspecting and who doesn't know the real program will lend his name to a peace movement. If you set yourself up good before you visit him and know a little bit about him, you know how to talk to him. You taught this in party discussions. You don't just walk up to this reverend or this doctor. You find out what to tell them. We even decide who should visit him to get the best results.

In the peace drive which they are organizing, that is a real phony. You don't have to tell them about our real program. Get a couple ministers to outlaw the atom bomb, and tell them to call on President Truman. But in the meantime, in classes and discussions, the study of Marxism and Leninism never stops. Even in 1944 and 1945, when we were allies, it never stopped. It really surprised me when I first got into the movement. We were singing songs like The Yanks Are Not Coming when Hitler and Stalin had a pact, and when the pact was broken they sang the same song but took the "Not" out. You have to be a "ghandi dancer" to keep up with the party line. It might change three times a day.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, with respect to the Civil Rights Congress meeting held on May 27, 1948, the files contain a break-down on contributions received and expenses incurred in connection with this meeting. The United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers contributed \$100 toward this meeting, in the form of \$50 from district 6 of the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers, and \$50 from local 610 of the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers, Pittsburgh.

Mr. Cvetic, what use was made of the offices of the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers, if any, by the Communist Party or Communist-front organizations with which you were connected?

Mr. CVETIC. We used the district office, which was located in the Wabash Building, while I was active both in the American Slav Congress and the Civil Rights Congress and in the Communist Party, for three or four reasons. First of all, through Tom Fitzpatrick and Tom Quinn and Jack Sartisky we were able to get UE to pass resolutions on any issues in which we were interested. And if we had large mimeograph jobs to do for the Communist Party or for the Civil Rights Congress or maybe for a campaign in the steel mills, we would go to the Wabash Building and turn them out on a mimeograph machine down there.

Mr. TAVENNER. Does that mean a mimeograph machine owned by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, by the district office. I went down there and helped run some off. While I have no knowledge of approaching UE directly for contributions to the Communist Party, we would sit down and discuss, if the Civil Rights Congress needed money for a campaign, and Steve Nelson or Roy Hudson would tell Miriam: "Call Tom Fitzpatrick and see if you can get \$50 or \$100." And usually it came through. We got contributions for the American Slav Congress in the same way, just by contacting Tom Fitzpatrick.

Mr. TAVENNER. Would any official of UE be contacted before making arrangements to print your material on their machines?

Mr. CVETIC. Usually I would call Tom Quinn or Jack Sartisky and say I was coming down to run off a job. There was never any objection. Many times they would help.

Mr. WALTER. And these contributions came from dues collected from all members of the union?

Mr. CVETIC. I presume so. They came from the funds of the district UE.

Mr. TAVENNER. The files of the Civil Rights Congress show that with the indictment of the 12 Communist leaders for conspiring to overthrow the United States by force and violence, the Pittsburgh Civil Rights Congress increased its activity. The Pittsburgh Civil Rights Congress received in October 1948 an important notice of a proposed telegram campaign. I desire to introduce in evidence a mimeograph of that notice, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 29."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 29," is filed herewith.) ²⁸

Mr. TAVENNER. To show one of their methods of influencing public opinion, I would like to read it:

[From Civil Rights Congress, room 1613, 205 East Forty-second Street, New York 17, N. Y.]

IMPORTANT NOTICE

TELEGRAM CAMPAIGN

On October 14, the day before the trial starts, hundreds of thousands of telegrams MUST be sent to Attorney General Tom Clark, from all over the country, demanding that the indictments against the 12 Communist Party leaders be dropped.

²⁸ See appendix.

It is important that you try to find out approximately how many telegrams were sent from your community to Clark on October 14. Please let our public relations director, Kevin Mullen, know immediately, because this information will be valuable press news.

Also, if possible, let us know the names of some of the OUTSTANDING PEOPLE in your community, who sent the telegrams.

We are calling these things to your attention, so that we, in the national office, will be able to give you the best available help that we possibly can. Please reply as quickly as possible.

The success of their program to obtain outstanding people is reflected by a release from the national office of the Civil Rights Congress of November 4, 1948, which I desire to offer in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 30."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 30," is filed herewith.) ²⁹

Mr. TAVENNER. This exhibit contains the names of prominent women in scientific, labor, and educational circles who signed petitions to President Truman and Attorney General Clark urging dismissal of the conspiracy indictment. There is also a list of over 200 signers from the ranks of labor organizations, as shown by a newspaper report which I desire to offer in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 31."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 31," is filed herewith.) ³⁰

Mr. TAVENNER. In early September, plans were made to reorganize the Civil Rights Congress in Pittsburgh in order to fully mobilize for the defense of the 12 indicted Communist leaders. Is that not so?

Mr. CVETIC. That was in September 1948, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer in evidence at this time a document from the Civil Rights Congress files entitled "Tentative Slate of Officers for Nominations Committee" and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 32."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 32," is filed herewith.) ³¹

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine that exhibit and see if you can identify the persons whose names appear thereon as members of the Communist Party; that is, persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This particular tentative slate of officers was selected at a meeting between Steve Nelson, Communist Party organizer in western Pennsylvania; Theresa Turner, Communist Party member and executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress; and myself, in the office of the American Slav Congress.

The chairman to be proposed was Thomas Quinn, Communist Party UE organizer.

Rev. C. E. McFadden, who is not, to the best of my knowledge, a Communist Party member, was proposed as vice chairman.

For financial secretary, Rev. W. C. Crenshaw, who also, to the best of my knowledge, is not a Communist Party member, was proposed.

²⁹ See appendix.

³⁰ See appendix.

³¹ See appendix.

For corresponding and recording secretary, Margaret Russinko, whom I have previously identified under the name of Peggy Russinko as a Communist Party youth organizer, was proposed.

For executive secretary, Theresa Turner, a Communist Party organizer and wife of Andy Onda, whom I identified as a Communist Party steel organizer in western Pennsylvania.

For finance chairman, Cvetic; that is myself;

For publicity chairman, Bernice Hecker, and I do not know her to be a Communist Party member;

For chairman of the legal committee, Attorney Hyman Schlesinger; and I have previously identified Hyman Schlessinger as a member of the Communist Party;

For campaign director, Matt; that is me again.

This concludes the tentative slate of officers picked to be presented at an October 16, 1948, conference; picked by Steve Nelson, Theresa Turner, and myself to be presented at this conference.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe you previously testified that in the early days of the Civil Rights Congress Miriam Schultz was executive secretary?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct. She was one of the first executive secretaries when the Civil Rights Congress was organized.

Mr. TAVENNER. In your testimony you mentioned that Theresa Turner was executive secretary.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the reason for the change, if you know?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I know the reason. This was discussed with Steve Nelson, Theresa Turner, Miriam Schultz, and myself. Theresa Turner came to Pittsburgh in August 1948, and at that time we were trying to find a replacement for Miriam Schultz because her mother had not been well and she wanted to be relieved of responsibility. After discussion with Steve Nelson it was decided Miriam Schultz would be relieved of responsibility as executive secretary, and we proposed the name of Theresa Turner, with the approval of Steve Nelson, as the new executive secretary, and at this meeting Miriam Schultz resigned.

Mr. TAVENNER. In other words, Steve Nelson and his Communist associates dictated the change in position of executive secretary of this front organization?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. In this connection, Mr. Chairman, I would like to call to the attention of the committee that to cover the real role played by the Communist Party in dictating the program and policy of the Civil Rights Congress, a letter was addressed to William Albertson, secretary of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania, on September 25, 1948, advising him of the meeting on October 16, and inviting him to speak in behalf of the 12, concluding with the statement: "May we hear from you in the near future that you have accepted this invitation."

I desire to offer in evidence a copy of that letter of September 25, 1948, to William Albertson, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 33."

Mr. Wood. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 33," is filed herewith.) ³²

Mr. WOOD. The committee will stand in recess until 2:30.

(Thereupon, a recess was taken until 2:30 p. m. of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

Mr. WOOD. The committee will be in order.

Let the record show we are proceeding under a subcommittee consisting of Messrs. Walter and Wood.

TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, this morning the document was not available at the time, and I made reference in a statement to expenditures incurred in the holding of the May 27, 1948, meeting of the Civil Rights Congress and the contributions that were made to that expense. I have now before me the document entitled "Expenses on Meeting," which shows a contribution by District No. 6 UE of \$50; and a contribution by No. 610 UE of \$50. I desire to introduce this document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 34."

Mr. WOOD. For purposes of identification, where did the document come from?

Mr. TAVENNER. This was one of the documents, as the others were, which Mr. Cvetic produced here in accordance with the subpoena duces tecum from the records of the Civil Rights Congress.

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 34," is filed herewith.) ³³

Mr. TAVENNER. I want to divert a moment to ask if you know a person by the name of Anthony Gabrish of New Kensington, Pa.?

Mr. CVETIC. I know an Anthony Gabrish of New Kensington, Pa. He is a Communist Party organizer in New Kensington. I have attended Communist Party meetings with him.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know Frank Malkovich of New Kensington, Pa.?

Mr. CVETIC. I know Frank Malkovich of New Kensington, Pa., and I know Frank Malkovich to be a Communist Party member, since I collected Communist Party dues from Frank Malkovich.

Mr. WOOD. Spell that name, please.

Mr. CVETIC. M-a-l-k-o-v-i-c-h.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know a person by the name of Mark Massola of Arnold, Pa.?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Massola is one of the leading Communist Party organizers and he has attended Communist Party district committee meetings in Pittsburgh. He is very active in the New Kensington area.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know a person by the name of Joseph Demosky of Arnold, Pa.?

Mr. CVETIC. I do not.

Mr. TAVENNER. You do not?

Mr. CVETIC. No.

³² See appendix.

³³ See appendix.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know a person by the name of Leon Gabrish of Arnold, Pa?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I know him, and know him to be a Communist Party member, having attended Communist Party functionary meetings with him. That is G-a-b-r-i-s-h or G-a-b-r-i-s-c-h, spelled both ways.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a form letter dated September 20, 1948, over the signatures of Thomas Quinn, chairman, and Theresa Turner, executive secretary, Pittsburgh Civil Rights Congress, sent as an appeal for defense funds for the 12 indicted as Communist leaders in New York, which I desire to introduce in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 35."

Mr. WOOD. It will be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 35," is filed herewith.) ³⁴

Mr. WOOD. Is it addressed to any particular person?

Mr. TAVENNER. No, sir.

At the bottom of that letter appears a list of sponsors. Will you examine that list of sponsors and state which of them are known to you to be members of the Communist Party, if any?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. First I would like to say that this letter was drawn up at the instructions of Steve Nelson to Theresa Turner and to myself. I helped to draw up this letter at the instructions of Steve Nelson. The list of sponsors was also suggested by Steve Nelson, that they be contacted, and Theresa Turner and myself contacted these sponsors. The following are members of the Communist Party:

Steve Mirokovich, district secretary, Croatian Benevolent Societies; that is the Croatian section of IWO.

Nicholas Baltich, district secretary, Serbian-American Federation; that is the Serbian section of IWO.

Michael Hanusiak, district secretary, Ukrainian-American Fraternal Union; that is the Ukranian section of IWO.

Joe Rudiak, president, American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania.

George Wuchinich, executive secretary, American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania.

Anna Devunich, secretary, Federation Croatian-American Women. This is a Communist front organization operating among Americans of Croatian descent.

Frank Tady, secretary, Pittsburgh chapter, Croatian-American Council. This is also a Communist front operating among Americans of Croatian descent.

Paul Kluvo, president, Polonia Society. This is the Polish section of IWO.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you read the names of all of those appearing as sponsors?

Mr. CVETIC. I have read the names of the Communist Party members appearing as sponsors, a total of 10. With the exception of myself there is only one person listed whom I cannot identify as a Communist Party member.

Mr. TAVENNER. All the persons whose names you read are known to you to be Communist Party members?

³⁴ See appendix.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I have attended Communist Party functionary meetings with these people.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the purpose of that communication, and what was done with it?

Mr. CVETIC. The purpose of that communication—I could read right from the letter:

Recognizing its responsibility to expand the fight against these attacks, the Civil Rights Congress is calling a conference on civil rights for Saturday afternoon, October 16, at the Fort Pitt Hotel. In addition it is raising a "defense fund" of \$2,500 in western Pennsylvania.

I would add that this defense fund was for the defense of the 12 Communist Party leaders who were being tried in New York City. [Continuing reading:]

Your organization is invited to participate in this fight and we are therefore enclosing a "call" to the conference and a collection list.

In other words, the purpose was to get these organizations to send delegates to this conference and also to raise funds for the defense of the Communist Party leaders being tried in New York.

Mr. TAVENNER. The Thomas Quinn whose name is signed as chairman is the same Thomas Quinn, is he not, as the one to whom you previously referred in your testimony as a member of UE?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right, and a Communist Party organizer in the UE.

Mr. TAVENNER. I now hand you the same type of letter dated September 28, 1948, also over the signatures of Thomas Quinn, chairman, and Theresa Turner, executive secretary, Pittsburgh Civil Rights Congress. I desire to offer this letter in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic exhibit No. 36."

Mr. WOOD. It will be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic exhibit No. 36," is filed herewith.)³⁵

Mr. TAVENNER. Does that letter also have a partial list of sponsors at the bottom of the letter?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; it has.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify the names of any of those persons as persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state who they are?

Mr. WOOD. Are those sponsors different from those in the other letter?

Mr. CVETIC. Mr. Chairman, do you want the additional ones?

Mr. TAVENNER. Name all of them.

Mr. CVETIC. Joe Rudiak, president, American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania;

George Wuchinich, executive secretary, American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania;

Alex Wright, vice chairman, Progressive Party;

Nick Lazaris, business agent, local 237, Hotel and Restaurant Employees Alliance;

Stanley Loney, president, District 6, UE-CIO.

³⁵ See appendix.

The names I have mentioned here I know to be members of the Communist Party as I have attended functionary meetings of the Communist Party with these people.

Mr. TAVENNER. I now hand you a set of resolutions adopted at the Civil Rights Congress conference held on October 16, 1948, which I desire to offer in evidence as "Cvetic exhibit No. 37."

Mr. WOOD. They will be admitted.

(The documents above referred to, marked "Cvetic exhibit No. 37," are filed herewith.)³⁶

(Representative Walter leaves hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine that exhibit and state, if you know, who was the author of those resolutions?

Mr. CVETIC. These resolutions were prepared by Theresa Turner in the office of the American Slav Congress on instructions from Steve Nelson, Communist Party organizer for western Pennsylvania. The actual technical work on these resolutions was done in the office of the American Slav Congress. I was there at the time the work was done on these resolutions.

Mr. TAVENNER. The Civil Rights Congress files also contain a document entitled "Suggestions for Speakers—Preparation for Civil Rights Conference—October 16, 1948." I desire to offer this document in evidence, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic exhibit No. 38."

Mr. WOOD. It will be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 38," is filed herewith.)³⁷

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know who prepared these suggestions?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. These suggestions were prepared by Miriam Schultz, who met with Bill Albertson, Steve Nelson, Theresa Turner, and myself to discuss the suggestions. Some of the particular phases of this document, for example, "Some significant dates and events in recent history," the significance was to compare events in Germany with events in this country. For example:

A. Feb. 1, 1933: President von Hindenburg of Germany, the "lesser evil" whom "middle-of-the-road" and "Socialists" had united to elect, names Adolf Hitler as Chancellor of Germany. General elections to be held March 5, a little over a month later.

B. Feb. 27, 1933: 1. 9:30 p. m. "The Reichstag is on fire!" A shocked populace pours into the streets of Berlin. Elections are six days off. Nazi Party cannot hope to win a majority of the votes.

It continues right on down to try to draw a comparison between the arrest of the Communist Party leaders here and what happened in Germany. The purpose is to try to show that what is happening in the United States is what happened in Germany in 1933. It continues all the way down. We have:

May 2, 1933: Two months later, German trade-unions occupied by Nazi storm troopers.

They are trying to draw the comparison that the same thing is happening here, that the Government is trying to take over the trade-unions and will take them over if fascism comes here; and so on.

Here is the comparison:

July 20, 1948: 12 leaders Communist Party indicted for "advocating" and "teaching" Marxism-Leninism. Grand Jury sitting thirteen months could find

³⁶ See appendix.

³⁷ See appendix.

no evidence to base indictments on overt acts. Attorney General Tom Clark of Texas to press indictments speedily as possible; plea for postponement of trials till after elections to prevent preelection hysteria, and time for attorneys to prepare case, denied."

And so on. Then it gives the names of people protesting the indictments of the 12.

Mr. TAVENNER. Those were suggestions made to the Civil Rights Congress by the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. By the Communist Party, that is right. For example, to bring in the so-called "growing purge list of Tom Clark's Department of Justice" and "intimidation of many thousands of foreign-born."

Mr. WOOD. We will suspend for about 5 minutes.

(Representative Wood leaves hearing room.)

(Representative Walter returns to hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Was there any further explanation that you desired to make relating to the "Suggestions for speakers," exhibit 38?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. In this particular document there is also a statement published in the Daily Worker, which was authorized by William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist Party, entitled "Communist Party Statement on Frame-up." This statement was also suggested to be used by speakers at the Civil Rights Conference.

Some of the specific cases that they talked about were "FBI and Immigration Department persecution of the foreign-born." They never referred to any reason why anyone was arrested by the Immigration authorities. They always said the foreign-born were being persecuted.

Another suggestion was to attack the House Un-American Activities Committee; and another case asked to be taken up was the Condon case of the Bureau of Standards, and so on.

It came to the conclusion that the efforts of this committee, the FBI, the Immigration authorities, the United States Government, and so on, are a trend toward Fascism in America.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to introduce in evidence a statement entitled "The First Line of Defense" appearing in the Worker, Sunday, August 29, 1948 issue, sponsored by W. E. B. Du Bois, New York City; Roscoe C. Dunjee, Oklahoma City; Charles P. Howard, Des Moines, and Paul Robeson, New York City; and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 39."

Mr. WALTER. Let it be so marked, and it will be admitted in evidence.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 39," is filed herewith.)³⁸

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine that statement? You will note a long list of sponsors. Will you examine the sponsors listed there from the State of Pennsylvania and state whether or not you can identify the names of any of those listed as being, to your knowledge, members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The names appearing on this list as endorsers whom I can identify as members of the Communist Party are: Pearl Griffin, presently employed as secretary of the Progressive Party of Western Pennsylvania; and Martin Harrison, active in organizational work of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania.

³⁸ See appendix.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, there have also been found in these papers presented by Mr. Cvetic records of what appear to be collections of money for the defense fund of the indicted 12, from October 16, 1948, to January 31, 1949. I desire to introduce in evidence one of these letters, bearing date November 23, 1948, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 40."

Mr. WALTER. Let it be so marked and received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 40," is filed herewith.)³⁹

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic,, that letter shows the total amount contributed by the Civil Rights Congress, I believe, as being \$576 for a certain period. Is that correct?

Mr. CVETIC. This is the amount of money raised during the month of October 1948 by the Civil Rights Congress of Western Pennsylvania.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether part of that money was actually contributed by the Communist Party which was reflected in the report contained in that letter from the Civil Rights Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Of this total of \$576, \$500 was a contribution by the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania. The actual contribution was made by Bill Albertson, district secretary of the Communist Party, at the October 16, 1948, Civil Rights Conference at the Fort Pitt Hotel. I attended this conference and saw and heard the presentation.

Mr. TAVENNER. That report you have in your hand, "Cvetic Exhibit No. 40," is signed by William L. Patterson, is it not?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is William L. Patterson, to your knowledge, a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. William L. Patterson, who signs this letter and who is listed as national executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, is a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. And how do you know that?

Mr. CVETIC. I have attended Communist Party strategy meetings in western Pennsylvania with William Patterson, and William Patterson has personally acknowledged before four or five people, in my presence, that he was a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I now desire to introduce in evidence a list of contributions that were mailed in after the conference, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 41."

Mr. WALTER. It will be so marked and received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 41," is filed herewith.)⁴⁰

(Representative Harrison enters hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please examine this list and state whether or not it appears on the list that the Communist Party was the donator of \$500 to that fund?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. On page 3 of this document it states that the Communist Party contributed \$500 to the defense fund at the conference. It states specifically, "Contributions at Conference," and shows that the contribution was made at the conference.

³⁹ See appendix.

⁴⁰ See appendix.

Mr. TAVENNER. This exhibit 41 also designates other persons as contributors. Can you identify any persons whose names appear there as being members of the Communist Party, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Eva Jandrokovic. That is her maiden name. She is presently married and her married name is Straka. She contributed \$10.

Nathan Albert, whom I have previously identified as a Communist Party member, contributed \$7.

Paul H. Morrison, whom I have previously identified as a Communist Party member, contributed \$15.

Carl Fink, who is a Communist Party organizer in the coal concentration area of Washington County, contributed \$5.

And there is a contribution of \$50 from the Jewish People's Fraternal Order. That is a branch of the IWO in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire now to offer in evidence a letter from Charles A. Doyle, trade-union director, Civil Rights Congress, 205 East Forty-second Street, New York, N. Y., addressed to Theresa Turner, Post Office Box 44, Pittsburgh, Pa., under date of December 21, 1948, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 42."

Mr. WALTER. Let it be marked and received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 42." is filed herewith.) ⁴¹

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to read the body of it:

I will be in Pittsburgh January 4, 5, 6, and 7, instead of the days I arranged to be there when I saw you last.

Will you please take this up with Bill and Steve and plan some activities for me during those 4 days.

Mr. Cvetic, will you explain that letter?

(Representative Wood returns to hearing room.)

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, if I may look at it I think I can explain it. This letter was addressed to Miss Theresa Turner at Post Office Box 44, which was the post office box of the Civil Rights Congress in Pittsburgh. It was signed by Charles A. Doyle, trade-union director of the Civil Rights Congress. In answer to Charles Doyle's request, Theresa Turner called Bill Albertson and Steve Nelson and discussed, in the office of the American Slav Congress, with both Bill Albertson and Steve Nelson, plans for some activities for Charles Doyle during those 4 days. Whether or when these meetings materialized as a result of this, I do not know, I did not attend any of the activities, but I did sit in on the plans and discussions held in the office of the American Slav Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you personally acquainted with Charles Doyle?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was he a member of the Communist Party, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. I can't testify that he was to the best of my knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. Included also in the files were copies of what appear to be further reports on money collected for the defense fund. I desire to offer in evidence several of these reports and ask that they be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 43."

Mr. WOOD. You are tendering them in one batch?

⁴¹ See appendix.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

Mr. WOOD. They will be admitted.

(The documents above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 43," are filed herewith.) ⁴²

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the reports, Mr. Cvetic. What period of time do they cover?

Mr. CVETIC. These reports cover money collected for the defense fund from October 16, 1948, to January 31, 1949.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you say "defense fund" you mean defense fund for the 12 Communists on trial in New York?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. You will note that the full names are not used in several instances?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Such as Joe R.; Matt; Rose V.; but attached to that first report is another report which I believe does give the exact names of the persons referred to?

Mr. CVETIC. That is correct. Do you want me to identify the people?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. Joe R. is Joe Rudiak, president of the American Slav Congress.

Rose V. is Rose Verecek from McKee's Rocks, Pa.

Fink is Carl Fink from Houston, Pa., Communist Party organizer in Washington County.

Mike G. is Mike Goldich from McKeesport, Pa.

M. S. is Miriam Schultz, whom I have identified as a member of the Communist Party and as executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you see the name Matt?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I was going to skip myself. That is Matt Cvetic. That is myself. I collected \$15 for this defense fund.

Steve Straka is a Communist Party organizer in the coal concentration area in Washington County.

(Representative Wood leaves hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you called the name of Cindrich?

Mr. CVETIC. That is John Cindrich from Washington County. This is Carolyn's husband. They are both active in Cokeburgh, Pa.

Mr. TAVENNER. There were also included in the Civil Rights Congress files rather worn pages of names with a note on the face which reads: "Important: For contacting! Contributions! etc."

I desire to introduce this list, partly typewritten and partly in ink, consisting of a number of pages, in one batch, and ask that they be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 44."

Mr. WALTER. You can mark it, but it will not be received in evidence for the moment, because it contains a number of names of people who quite obviously are not Communists. I don't think it should be made a part of the record for the moment. We will determine what should be done with it later.

(The documents above referred to were not received in evidence and no exhibit number was assigned to them.)

Mr. HARRISON. You mean these are people you wanted to get to contribute, but it doesn't necessarily mean they contributed?

⁴² See appendix.

Mr. WALTER. Some did contribute, and I notice some are clergymen.

Mr. CVETIC. I will explain the list and the reason for the list without mentioning names.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the list and explain what the purpose of it was and how it was used?

Mr. CVETIC. This is a list of professional people, trade-union leaders, clergymen, trade-unions, and other organizations. It is a list that was used by the Civil Rights Congress for the purpose of contacting them and trying to involve them in the work of the Civil Rights Congress. This particular list was specifically prepared for the May 27, 1948 Civil Rights Congress public hearings that we talked about. These names would be divided among the active members of the Civil Rights Congress for the purpose of contacting the professional people and others listed in an effort to get them to attend the meetings or get a contribution from them for the defense fund.

Mr. HARRISON. Does that list show from which persons they were able to get a contribution or endorsement?

Mr. CVETIC. I see several people we were able to involve as contributors or sponsors, and people who have even become officers of the Civil Rights Congress, but several are not members of the Communist Party and I would rather not mention their names.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think it would be well to ask the witness if he can identify any names on that list who are known to him to be members of the Communist Party and who have not already been identified by him.

Mr. CVETIC. I would say from the list as I see it here, I have already identified the names mentioned who are Communist Party members.

Mr. TAVENNER. In other words, that was the list that was used in order to raise funds, or where they hoped to raise funds?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. As I said before, we had these meetings of Communist Party leaders, Roy Hudson, Steve Nelson, and William Albertson. At the time of this particular list Hudson was in Pittsburgh. People would be asked to call on these individuals and try to get them to attend the meetings or get contributions from them. Usually when we prepared these lists they were non-Communists.

Mr. WALTER. In other words, a typical sucker list?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I didn't want to use that word, Congressman.

Mr. TAVENNER. Where did you get the names?

Mr. CVETIC. We had files of people we thought could be involved. The files would be gone over and Steve Nelson would say, "Reverend so-and-so must be contacted. Who can see him?" Or, "Doctor so-and-so must be contacted. In the past he made a contribution." Then someone would be assigned to see them. I would be assigned 5 or 10 people.

Mr. TAVENNER. This was at the very beginning of the Civil Rights Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. It was not?

Mr. CVETIC. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us how that list was compiled. Was it used by other organizations prior to that time?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This list available to the American Slav Congress, to the Communist Party, to the Progressive Party, and we

could add names, and if a guy turned us down we could strike him off the list; it depended on his response. For example, it might be brought out, "We got Reverend so and so to endorse a meeting last year," or "We got a contribution from Professor so and so 2 years ago," or "Doctor so and so used to contribute \$20 a month."

Mr. TAVENNER. So when a contribution was made to any of these causes, the contributor got his name on the list for all the causes?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. When you got on the sucker list you stayed on until you got voted off.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you another list found in the files of the Civil Rights Congress of names of persons suggested for the Speakers' Committee of the Civil Rights Congress. Will you examine that list and state the purpose of that list, please?

Mr. CVETIC. This list was prepared on instructions from the district organizer of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania, who at that time was Roy Hudson, that we have a prepared list of speakers for the Civil Rights Congress. Later, when Steve Nelson came, he revised the list.

Mr. TAVENNER. Those speakers listed there are from the different professions?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; like trade-union leaders, reverends, doctors, professional people, organizers, and so on.

Mr. HARRISON. Did they agree to make themselves available as speakers?

Mr. CVETIC. We would call them up or visit them and try to get them to agree to speak.

Mr. HARRISON. Do you know the ones that did actually speak?

Mr. CVETIC. I know the ones here who are members of the Communist Party who were contacted and agreed to speak. Some reverends agreed to participate, but whether they should be mentioned is for the committee to decide.

Mr. HARRISON. But they did speak?

Mr. CVETIC. Some did; yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. If there is any person whose name appears on that list who is known to you to be a member of the Communist Party, will you state who he is?

Mr. CVETIC. This is broken down into zones.

Mr. TAVENNER. What do you mean by zones?

Mr. CVETIC. For example, Duquesne would be one zone, downtown would be another zone, and so on. Those on this list who are members of the Communist Party are: Alex Steinberg, Mark Lovett, Mary Kluko, Ruth Goldworth, Sarah Filner, Nate Albert, Evelyn Abelson, Walter Mugford, Alex Wright, Viola Schmidt, and Esther Bliss. That covers the Communist Party members.

Mr. WALTER. Mr. Cvetic, according to an account in Sunday's Pittsburgh newspaper, the frank of a Member of Congress was used in the dissemination of some Communist literature. Who determined that it was advisable or possible to contact that particular Member?

Mr. CVETIC. Was that in this Sunday's newspaper?

Mr. WALTER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. Well, the person in Pittsburgh responsible for this particular activity met daily with Steve Nelson, so the activities were carried on at the instructions of Steve Nelson.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like to call attention to a report dated January 12, 1949, by William L. Patterson, national executive secretary, Civil Rights Congress, which I desire to offer in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 44."

Mr. WALTER. Let it be marked and received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 44," is filed herewith.) ⁴³

Mr. TAVENNER. This exhibit shows that there was raised as of January 12, 1949, the sum of \$2,369.18 of a quota of \$12,500 in the Pittsburgh area, and then follows this paragraph:

Because of this failure to meet the quota in your State, as in other States, only \$65,030 has been collected to date of the \$250,000 we have been campaigning for—
WHICH IS THE MINIMUM NEED.

Mr. Cvetic, I now hand you the minutes of an executive meeting of the Civil Rights Congress held on April 20, 1949. I desire to offer it first in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 45."

Mr. WALTER. It will be received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 45," is filed herewith.) ⁴⁴

Mr. TAVENNER. Listed as attending are Marian, George, Tillie, Milo, Peggy, Crenshaw, and Nate. Can you identify these people whose names appear by these first names or nicknames and advise the committee whether or not any of them are, to your knowledge, members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. The George mentioned here would be George Wuchinich, whom I have identified as a member of the Communist Party.

Milo would be Milo Mamula, whom I have identified as a member of the Communist Party.

Peggy would be Peggy Russinko, whom I have identified as a member of the Communist Party.

Nate would be Nate Albert, whom I have identified as a member of the Communist Party.

There are three who are not members of the Communist Party, and perhaps I should pass them up.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. WALTER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. I do see additional names, though, of party members. I see Charley Fisher. He was a Progressive Party organizer and was a Communist Party member.

(Representative Wood returns to hearing room.)

Mr. TAVENNER. Does this record disclose that the members of the Communist Party whom you have noted set up the meeting for May 4 which is listed in the minutes and selected the speakers, also listed in the minutes?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. At this time Milo Mamula had become executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress and he set up the meeting of May 4 and prepared the minutes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who are listed as the speakers?

Mr. CVETIC. William Patterson is one speaker.

Mr. TAVENNER. As you call the names, if you have knowledge of their being a member of the Communist Party, please so state.

⁴³ See appendix.

⁴⁴ See appendix.

Mr. CVETIC. William Patterson, national executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, is listed as a speaker.

Tom Quinn is listed as the chairman of the meeting.

Nate Albert is listed as a speaker.

Tom Fitzpatrick is listed as a speaker.

Charley Fisher is listed as a speaker.

Charley Newell and Nick Lazaris are listed as speakers. These I have identified as Communist Party members and they were considered as speakers. Which of them actually spoke, I can't say, because I didn't attend the meeting.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, on May 3, 1949, the Civil Rights Congress was again instructed by the Civil Rights Congress of Western Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, Pa., by an "Emergency Legislative Bulletin" which I desire to offer in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 46."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 46," is filed herewith.) ⁴⁵

Mr. TAVENNER. I think I should read it:

EMERGENCY LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

SENATE HEARINGS START ON MUNDT-FERGUSON-NIXON BILL (S. 1194)

The Senate Judiciary Sub-Committee opened hearings on the Mundt-Ferguson Bill where Senator Ferguson is scheduled to speak in favor of the Bill. This Bill is similar to the Mundt-Nixon Bill (Police State Bill) of the 80th Congress which was defeated in the Senate only by mass public protest.

It is imperative that there be vigorous opposition on a mass basis to this measure for if it passes it will result in outlawing minority political parties, virtually all progressive organizations, destroy the labor movement, and seriously limit academic freedom and the freedom to religious belief. Free speech, free thought, and the use of free press shall be censored. The Bill of Rights will be undermined and destroyed by this Bill.

ACTION PROGRAM

1. Get as many outstanding community leaders and representatives of organizations in your community to wire Senator Pat McCarran, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, Washington, D. C., for time to be heard in opposition to the Mundt-Ferguson Bill (S. 1194).

2. Get as many organizations and individuals in your locality to wire or write to your Senator, urging him to appear before the Judiciary Subcommittee in opposition to this Bill.

3. Start raising the issue before organizations and try to obtain resolutions in opposition to this Bill, copies of which should be sent to Senator McCarran, your own Senator, and to the National Civil Rights Congress.

TIME IS PRECIOUS—ACTION IS NEEDED NOW

The Mundt-Ferguson-Nixon Bill is called an effort to "Gag the Millions of Americans who demand an end to the cold war and the defeat of the war-breeding NORTH ATLANTIC PACT."

The provisions of the bill constitute a legislative blueprint for Fascism. This Bill must and will be defeated as was the Mundt-Nixon Bill of the 80th Congress by a mass protest of the people who refuse to be legislated into Fascism.

I now desire to offer in evidence a telegram signed "Cadden" and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 47."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

⁴⁵ See appendix.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 47," is filed herewith.) ⁴⁶

Mr. TAVENNER. The telegram is dated at New York, June 9, 1948, addressed to Miriam Schultz, 1527 Alabama Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa., and reads as follows:

Judiciary Committee Meeting On Mundt Bill Thursday Morning. Emergency Steps Necessary To Pour Wires To Committee Members And Your Own Senators Tonight From All Possible Sources. Inform Us What Prominent Veterans You Are Sending To Washington To Join Group Already There.

Mr. Cvetic, this telegram is signed "Cadden." Can you identify Mr. Cadden for the committee?

Mr. CVETIC. Mr. Cadden at that time was active in the Civil Rights Congress out of the national office in New York. Miriam Schultz, to whom this telegram was addressed, was a member of the Civil Rights Congress in Pittsburgh and a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a form letter dated January 15, 1948, issued by the Civil Rights Congress of western Pennsylvania relative to the showing of the film "Native Land" with its songs and narration by Paul Robeson, photography by Paul Strand, and music by Marc Blitzstein. On the reverse side of the letter are listed the members of the arrangements, program, sponsors, and publicity committees. Will you examine this list of committees and identify those who, to your knowledge, are members of the Communist Party? But first I desire to offer the document in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 48."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 48," is filed herewith.) ⁴⁷

Mr. CVETIC. On the arrangements committee, members of the Communist Party are: Anne Lipkind and Louise Benjoya.

On the program committee, Miriam, no last name mentioned but it is Miriam Schultz, as I remember.

On the sponsors committee, Tom Quinn, Nate Albert, and Sunny Sartisky. Her correct name is Sonya, a Communist Party member and the wife of Jack Sartisky, Communist Party member and UE organizer.

Publicity committee, Dorothy Albert was listed, with myself.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer a list of persons who were to furnish transportation to a meeting featuring Mrs. Robeson, wife of Paul Robeson, on Friday evening, October 28, 1949, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 49."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 49," is filed herewith.) ⁴⁸

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, will you examine the list and state whether or not you can identify the names of any of those appearing thereon as members of the Communist Party, that is, known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. First I would like to say, the way this was arranged, this plan was discussed at the nationality commission of the Communist Party, and this list was prepared at the nationality commis-

⁴⁶ See appendix.

⁴⁷ See appendix.

⁴⁸ See appendix.

sion meeting, and it was our contribution to this meeting at which Mrs. Robeson was present on the evening of October 28, 1949, at the A. Leo Weil School in Pittsburgh. In other words, we were to get these cars to transport people to the meeting.

Mr. TAVENNER. By "we" to whom do you refer?

Mr. CVETIC. Members of the nationality commission.

Mr. TAVENNER. Of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Tony Minerich assumed responsibility for contacting Mary Sumrak, Ivan Strizich—his first name is John, Ivan is Russian for John—Frank Tadey, Arthur Bartl, Leo Fisher, Calvin Brook, John Zuskar, John Vidmar, Jean Vidmar, and Vrbán, that is Joe Vrbán from Lawrenceville. He is also a member of the Communist Party.

Joseph Rudiak was to contact Miriam Schultz, who was a member of the Communist Party.

Anna Devunich contacted four people. I cannot identify any of them as members of the Communist Party.

George Wuchinich assumed responsibility for contacting Marko Godich, Trafford, Paul Kluvo, Mike Stanovich, Anna Fink (and her maiden name is Natchie), Mike Hanusiak, Paul Matanic, Communist Party organizer in Beaver Valley.

And Milo Mamula was to contact Martha Hubscher and also her husband, who is a party member; Lou Bortz, Jerry Grushka, and Hyman Schlessinger.

These people were to be contacted for the purpose of getting five people into their cars to this meeting at which Mrs. Robeson spoke at A. Leo Weil School, a public school in Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who originated the holding of that meeting?

Mr. CVETIC. The Communist Party. We originated that. I would like to say now I have been a member of the Civil Rights Congress since its inception in Pittsburgh. I worked with it until I left Pittsburgh 3 weeks ago. All the programing and planning for the Civil Right Congress in Pittsburgh was done by the Communist Party of western Pennsylvania. There was no exception to this.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence a form letter for the holding of a meeting on September 27, on the back of which is a partial list of sponsors, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 50."

Mr. WOOD. Let it be admitted.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 50," is filed herewith.)⁴⁰

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine that partial list of sponsors and see if you can identify any of the persons named as being Communist Party members, to your own knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. Of this partial list of sponsors the following are members of the Communist Party: Esther Bliss, Alex Wright, Tom Fitzpatrick, Stanley Loney, Nick Lazari, Jack Strobel, Thomas Quinn, and Joseph Robinson, national cochairman, Steelworkers' Committee for Wallace, formerly employed at Crucible Steel Co. in Pittsburgh.

Mr. WOOD. We will take a 5- or 10-minute recess.

(At this point Representative Wood left hearing room. Representative Walter arrived shortly thereafter and continued proceedings.)

⁴⁰ See appendix.

Mr. WALTER (assuming chair). Proceed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I desire to offer in evidence at this time copy of a letter signed "Daughter Dollie Allen, secretary, Elks Rest" bearing date January 29, 1949, which shows a list of the local sponsoring committee on the margin, and I ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 51."

Mr. WALTER. Let it be marked and received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 51," is filed herewith.) ⁵⁰

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine this exhibit 51, Mr. Cvetic, and explain what the Elks Rest is and the significance of the letter?

Mr. CVETIC. This was a sponsoring committee call to a legislative assembly and rally to be held in Washington, D. C., on February 11 and 12, 1949. The local sponsoring committee members of the Communist Party were: Alexander Wright, whom I previously identified as a Communist Party member; Joseph "Sonny" Robinson, whom I previously identified as a member of the Communist Party; and Charles Kearns, a radio script writer for one of the Pittsburgh radio stations, who is also a Communist Party member.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, there appear among the papers which you presented here, many throw-aways on various subjects. Who decided when a throw-away was to be prepared for the Civil Rights Congress?

Mr. CVETIC. This was always decided in meeting with the district organizer of the Communist Party or the district secretary in meeting with the executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the subject of the throw-away decided in the same way?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The subject was always the subject for thorough political discussion in these meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like to offer in evidence in one batch the remaining papers and files produced by Mr. Cvetic relating to the Civil Rights Congress, and I will ask that they be tied together and marked "Cvetic Exhibit 52."

Mr. WALTER. Let them be properly identified and received.

(The documents above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit 52," are filed herewith.) ⁵¹

Mr. TAVENNER. That is all we desire to offer relating to the Civil Rights Congress.

Mr. Cvetic, we will now take up the documents which you presented under the subpoena duces tecum relating to the Progressive Party of Pennsylvania.

Mr. WALTER. Just a moment. Before going into that I would like to ask Mr. Cvetic several questions. I noticed on the list of contributors and speakers the names of many clergymen.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. WALTER. Certainly none of them were members of the Communist Party. What did you do in order to encourage them to assist in these Communist movements?

Mr. CVETIC. Well, for example, the Negro ministers, we would not approach them on the defense of the 12. While that was the

⁵⁰ See appendix.

⁵¹ See appendix.

central theme around which all our work was built, when we talked it over in these meetings I mentioned, as to how to approach these people, it was decided we would not discuss the defense of the Communist Party leaders, but would go to them and tell them the Civil Rights Congress was in the forefront for the defense of the Negro people, and this would convince some of them.

Mr. WALTER. Then it was the hope of the Communists that, after they had become active in that particular movement, thereafter you could enlist their support in the entire Communist movement?

(Representative Wood returned to hearing room.)

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. For example, at the home of Lawrence Schultz, Reverend Crenshaw, who was not a member of the Communist Party, was at a lunch also attended by Bill Patterson. Bill Patterson would try to convince Reverend Crenshaw that his way was the correct way. At this particular lunch, Patterson went so far as to say his method was different but they were going after the same thing. I was at this meeting, and he told Reverend Crenshaw: "Reverend, the only way we are going to get any place is to learn to hate our enemies enough to kill them." Reverend Crenshaw said he didn't agree, but who are our enemies? He said: "Wall Street and the Washington war makers." He made it very explicit. He told the Reverend Crenshaw how he felt about it.

This Lawrence Schultz is one of the largest contributors to the Communist Party in the Pittsburgh area. He lives at 1527 Alabama Avenue.

To approach the Slavs they usually approach them on the foreign-born theme. Whenever an alien is picked up for deportation, the cases in which the Civil Rights Congress has been interested have all been cases involving Communists. However, they would not defend these people on the basis they were Communist Party members, but on the ground "the capitalists and Wall Streeters are attacking the foreign-born." It depends who it is. They have a program for everybody. The trade-unions, they try to convince the trade-union leaders of some grievance, actual or imaginary, and try to get part of their program in that way.

Mr. WOOD. The committee will stand at recess until 10:30 tomorrow morning.

(Thereupon, an adjournment was taken until 10:30 a. m. Tuesday, March 14, 1950.)

EXPOSÉ OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BASED UPON THE TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC (UNDERCOVER AGENT)

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1950

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D. C.
PUBLIC HEARING

MORNING SESSION

The subcommittee met, pursuant to adjournment, at 10:40 a. m., in room 226, Old House Office Building, Hon. Francis E. Walter presiding.

Committee members present: Representative Francis E. Walter and Bernard W. Kearney.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., counsel; Charles McKillips, investigator; John W. Carrington, clerk; and A. S. Poore, editor.

Mr. WALTER. The committee will come to order. Mr. Cvetic has been sworn. Proceed.

TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, on page 11 of the transcript of March 13, 1950, reference is made to Cvetic exhibit No. 8, which is the minutes of the meeting of February 12, 1950, of the Labor Youth League. On that page, I asked if you could identify the recording secretary, whose name appeared merely as "Bernie." You testified that Bernie is Bernie Silas, S-i-l-a-s. Is that a correct spelling of his last name or not?

Mr. CVETIC. The correct spelling of Bernie Silas's name is S-a-l-i-s.

Mr. TAVENNER. Instead of S-i-l-a-s it is S-a-l-i-s?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the first name is what?

Mr. CVETIC. I have always known him as Bernie, B-e-r-n-i-e. That is the only name he ever used, Bernie Salis, S-a-l-i-s.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have previously testified about the campaigns that were conducted by the Civil Rights Congress to raise funds for the defense of the 11 Communists on trial in New York. Can you give us any further information regarding the manner of handling funds raised for that purpose which you have not already testified to?

Mr. CVETIC. Well, I attended a meeting in Chicago of national executives of the Civil Rights Congress in the spring of 1949, either in the spring or early summer of 1949. To this meeting came the

executives from the entire country. We had about 30 executive secretaries. I represented the western Pennsylvania area of the Civil Rights Congress. William Patterson, national executive secretary, was chairman of the meeting. Another who was there was Harold Christoffel; also Mr. Marshall, who at that time was one of the top officials of the Civil Rights Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. What Marshall is that?

Mr. CVETIC. I don't recollect his first name. At any rate, at this particular meeting in Chicago, it was called for the purpose of taking up the main topic, and that was the defense of the Communist Party leadership.

In the course of the discussions which developed in the 2 days, several of the people who attended these meetings complained bitterly because some of the money which was raised for other causes was deflected to the defense of the Communist leadership. In one particular case there was a fund of over \$20,000 raised for a specific campaign, and no record was ever available that the money was used for that particular purpose. From all indications and apologies by top officials, this fund was deflected to the defense of the Communist Party leadership.

The conclusion was reached at this meeting that from then on money would be used for the purpose for which it was raised. We were working and raising funds for many cases, the Leon Josephson case and many others, and from the discussions at this meeting it was brought out that much of the money raised for these cases was deflected to the Communist leadership defense.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know of the deflection of funds to any other purposes than the defense purpose?

Mr. CVETIC. No; I do not. At Communist Party meetings we were told that the Civil Rights Congress was not to be trusted with the defense of the Communist Party leadership.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who took part in determining the policy that the funds raised by the Civil Rights Congress should be used in the defense of the Communist Party leaders?

Mr. CVETIC. This decision, which came in the form of a report from Steve Nelson, came from the national board of the Communist Party in New York. It was made in the form of a report to the Communist Party functionaries in western Pennsylvania. I remember many communications from William Patterson, the national executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress, and he constantly closed his letters with: "Please remember that our main objective is the defense of the Communist Party leadership" or "We must build all our campaigns around the defense of the Communist Party leadership."

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall the purpose for which the fund of \$20,000 was raised which you said it was suspected had been diverted to the defense of the Communist leaders?

Mr. CVETIC. The amount, as I recollect, was around \$23,000. Without my notes, which I turned over to the FBI, I don't remember the specifics on it. As soon as I would get through with a meeting, I would file my reports and then get started on the next day's work.

Mr. TAVENNER. We will now take up the Progressive Party of Pennsylvania, based on documents which you turned over the committee. As you have already dealt with the organization of the Progressive Party and its leaders in your previous testimony, we will

confine the questions at this time to the documents which you produced in response to a subpoena duces tecum when you first testified before the committee.

I hand you a letterhead of the Progressive Party of Pennsylvania which includes the names of officers. First, I desire to offer it in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 53."

Mr. WALTER. Without objection, it will be received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 53," is filed herewith.)⁵²

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the exhibit and state whether or not you can identify the names of any of the officers appearing on the left margin of the letterhead as persons who are members of the Communist Party, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. This is a letterhead of the Progressive Party of Pennsylvania. Listed here are the officers of the Progressive Party of Pennsylvania. I identify the following as members of the Communist Party:

The secretary, Thomas Fitzpatrick.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is he the same Tom Fitzpatrick who is a member of UE?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This is the same Tom Fitzpatrick whom I have previously identified as a member of UE.

Nicholas Lazaris. He is the same Nicholas Lazaris I have testified to previously, from the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Alliance, Local 237.

Stanley Loney.

I should say that after the first name, Thomas Fitzpatrick, who is secretary, these are vice chairmen of the Progressive Party of Pennsylvania.

Virginia Seymour, Pittsburgh regional director, Western Pennsylvania, Progressive Party. She held that position until the completion of the Wallace campaign in 1948, at which time she resigned and went to California. According to information I have, she was at one time a member of the National Committee on Atomic Information.

Alexander Wright, international representative, United Stone and Allied Products Workers, CIO, and presently the director of the Progressive Party in Western Pennsylvania.

George Wuchinich, Pittsburgh, executive secretary, American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania, presently in New York.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are all the persons named by you from that letterhead known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The persons I have named are known to me to be members of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence a letter on the letterhead of the Progressive Party of Pennsylvania, bearing date November 23, 1949, addressed to "Progressive Party State Leadership," from Zalmon H. Garfield, State director, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 54."

Mr. WALTER. Without objection, it will be received.

⁵² See appendix.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 54," is filed herewith.)⁵³

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you personally acquainted with Zalmon H. Garfield, whose name appears on that letter as the State director of the Progressive Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I am. I met Zalmon H. Garfield when he was a director of the Progressive Party in western Pennsylvania for about 6 months last year.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is he known to you as a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; he is. He met with members of the Communist Party at 943 Liberty Avenue and other places to discuss policy.

Mr. TAVENNER. These were meetings designed only for Communist Party members?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. Shall I spell his name? Z-a-l-m-o-n H. G-a-r-f-i-e-l-d. He has been transferred since to Philadelphia and is working there at the present time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether he is connected in Philadelphia with the administration of any organization?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. He is still an administrator in the Progressive Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence a photograph appearing in the April 30, 1949, issue of the Pittsburgh Courier, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 55."

Mr. WALTER. For what purpose?

Mr. TAVENNER. To identify individuals whose photographs are included in the picture.

Mr. WALTER. Without objection it will be received.

(The photograph above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 55," is filed herewith.)⁵⁴

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the photograph and state whether or not it purports to be a photograph of a swimming party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This is a photograph of a swimming party held at Highland Park, Pittsburgh, which was organized by the YPA, that is, the Young Progressives. I can identify the following as members of the Communist Party: Esther Bliss—

Mr. TAVENNER. How many will you be able to identify in that picture as members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Seven.

Mr. TAVENNER. As you name them, will you mark their photographs 1, 2, 3, and so on through 7?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The first is Esther Bliss.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mark her photograph with a 1.

Mr. CVETIC. Eben Matlis.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mark his photograph 2.

Mr. CVETIC. Herbert Walker, 3; Louise Benjoies (it is also spelled B-e-n-j-o-y-a), 4; Bessie Steinberg, 5; Esther Roth, 6; and Jerry Grushka, 7.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence as one batch four petitions which were taken from the Progressive Party files identified by the witness, Mr. Cvetic, and ask that they be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 56."

Mr. WALTER. They will be received.

⁵³ See appendix.

⁵⁴ See appendix.

(The documents above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 56," are filed herewith.) ⁵⁵

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine exhibit 56 and state whether you can identify the names of any persons appearing thereon as persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I will do that. These are lists which were used to raise contributions for the Wallace campaign in 1948:

Tony Lepovich, Communist Party member in Bentleyville, Pa.;

Ned Rasovich, Communist Party member in Bentleyville, Pa., and a former member of the district committee of the Communist Party;

Mary Sumrak, whom I previously identified as a Communist Party member;

John Strizich, Communist Party member and a former employee of the Language Press, North Side, Pittsburgh;

Tom Quinn, whom I previously identified as a Communist Party leader working in UE.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence a list entitled "Progressive Party Ticket Sellers," which was obtained from the same files, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 57."

Mr. WALTER. Without objection it will be marked and received in evidence.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 57," is filed herewith.) ⁵⁶

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state what the purpose was for the compilation of that list?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This list is a compilation of ticket sellers for the Wallace meeting back in 1948. We kept a list of the ticket sellers.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the list and state whether or not any persons whose names appear thereon are known to you to be members of the Communist Party, and if so state their names?

Mr. CVETIC. Mr. Chairman, this is a rather lengthy list. Shall I repeat the names of people I have previously identified?

Mr. WALTER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. Anne Natchie, a Communist Party member of Washington County—she is married at present and her name is Anne Fink; she is the wife of Carl Fink, whom I have previously identified as a member of the Communist Party;

Nick Baltich;

Frank Borich;

Tony Cipicic;

Mike Hanusiak, national organizer of the IWO;

Milo Mamula;

Max Jenkins, the organizer for the Jewish section of IWO;

Elmer Kish, previously identified as a Communist Party organizer at Homestead Steel;

Mrs. Mary Matles. Her correct name is Matlesko, M-a-t-l-e-s-k-o; living at 431½ Maine Street, Conemaugh, Pa. She is one of the active Communist Party organizers in Cambria County.

Alex Stabler, previously identified;

Jack Sartisky;

Steve Rosner;

⁵⁵ See appendix.

⁵⁶ See appendix.

Walter Kurowski, 921 Summit Avenue, Monessen, Pa.;

Alice Roth;

Alex Wright;

Jack Begler, 1551 Dennison Street, Pittsburgh;

Ida Bortz, 1253 Shadycrest Drive, Pittsburgh;

Lewis Bortz, her husband, previously identified;

Eddie Lange, 1108 Bidwell Street this time, a Communist Party organizer at the Heinz Co., North Side, Pittsburgh;

Joe Mankin, who is in charge of the hotel and restaurant workers' cell of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh;

Steve Paich, 729 Giffons Avenue, Cannonsburg, Pa.—a Communist Party organizer in coal concentration in Washington County;

Miriam Schultz, identified yesterday by me as a former executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress;

M. Y. Steinberg, Commonwealth Building, Pittsburgh, an attorney and previously identified by me as a member of the Communist Party;

Maurice Shindler;

Charles Vuich, 102 Edgewood Avenue, Trafford, Pa., Communist Party organizer in the Language Division.

Mr. WALTER. The names you have mentioned are of persons you are certain are members of some Communist organization?

Mr. CVETIC. These are all names of persons with whom, in the past 7 years, I have attended Communist Party functionary or committee meetings, or branch meetings, or meetings of one of the commissions of the Communist Party, such as the steel commission, or a political commission of the Communist Party, where we discussed what party line to carry into the Progressive Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence as one exhibit a batch of papers consisting of 10 sheets, purporting to be a record of the sale of tickets, and ask that they be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 58."

Mr. WALTER. Without objection, they can be marked and received in evidence.

(The documents above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 58," are filed herewith.)⁵⁷

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine that list and give us the names of any persons appearing thereon who, to your knowledge, are members of the Communist Party, other than those you have already mentioned in the previous exhibit?

Mr. WALTER. I suppose, Mr. Tavenner, that in view of the fact there are many names on those lists of persons who have no Communist affiliations, you will be careful that innocent people are not injured by the receipt of these documents in evidence.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

Mr. CVETIC. Frances Begler; Lillian Lewis; they are additional to the ones I already mentioned.

Mr. TAVENNER. I now offer in evidence what appears to be a mailing list, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 59."

Mr. WALTER. For what purpose is it offered?

Mr. TAVENNER. For the purpose of identifying names appearing on it as members of the Communist Party.

Mr. WALTER. Without objection it will be marked and received.

⁵⁷ See appendix.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 59," is filed herewith.) ⁵⁸

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine that exhibit and state the names of any persons appearing thereon known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Helen Migalich; Matthew Vukovich; Zare Werlinich, a member of the Communist Party in McKees Rocks, Pa.; and Anthony Skvarich.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence copy of a letter purporting to be from George S. Wuchinich, whose name is typed at the bottom of the letter, bearing date May 12, 1948, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 60."

Mr. WALTER. Let it be marked and received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 60," is filed herewith.) ⁵⁹

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you describe what that letter is?

Mr. CVETIC. The letter states—

DEAR FRIEND: The following is an enumeration of expenses for individuals who have spent considerable time in the Panhandle Division of West Virginia to campaign on the petition signing.

I have knowledge of the petition signing referred to, because I worked with them. It was the Wallace petition campaign in the spring of 1948. The persons listed in this letter were assigned to go to West Virginia by the Political Commission of Western Pennsylvania. These are their expense accounts, and these are the individuals listed.

Mr. KEARNEY. These individuals you are about to name, are they members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; they are.

Mr. KEARNEY. I agree with the chairman that we don't want to see the name of anybody brought into this record who is not a member of the Communist Party, because there are many fine citizens who might have their own ideas as to whom they might like to campaign or vote for for any office.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the list of expenditures stated there and give the names of those appearing on the list who are known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. The following are members of the Communist Party:

Milo D. Mamula, who submits a bill of \$67.05 for his expenses in the West Virginia campaign;

Herbert Walker, who submits an expense account of \$18.30 for this campaign;

George S. Wuchinich, who submits an expense account of \$16.50 for his part of the expenses.

I know these three people to be members of the Communist Party, as I have attended Communist Party functionary meetings with them.

Mr. WALTER. What instructions were given these men when they embarked on the campaign in West Virginia?

Mr. CVETIC. It seemed the campaign in West Virginia was lagging down. We had several meetings in Pittsburgh and we asked people who were not busy—I was asked to go down, but I was too busy—

⁵⁸ See appendix.

⁵⁹ See appendix.

those who were available were asked to go down. These were three people who were selected as a result of meetings of the Political Commission of the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania to go into West Virginia to organize the petition campaign.

Mr. WALTER. Whom were they told to contact?

Mr. CVETIC. That I don't know, because I wasn't in West Virginia on the campaign myself.

Mr. WALTER. Do you know what type of person they sought to help?

Mr. CVETIC. Frankly, I was not familiar with the West Virginia campaign at all.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are there other persons listed in this letter other than the three you have mentioned?

Mr. CVETIC. Joe Rudiak.

Mr. TAVENNER. I don't want the name of any person not a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. CVETIC. Joe Rudiak is a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. You had failed to state his name a moment ago.

Mr. CVETIC. His name is on page 2. I had not turned to the second page. Those are the only members of the Communist Party listed on this document to the best of my knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are there other persons whose names appear in that document, other than members of the Communist Party? I am not asking who they are, but are there other names mentioned?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; there are other names listed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who is the writer of the letter?

Mr. CVETIC. George S. Wuchinich.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you read the last paragraph?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes [reading]:

We consider it a great privilege to have participated in helping our sister State and it is with a great deal of pride that we enjoy the victory of 10,000 signatures of which 723 came from the Panhandle division.

Mr. TAVENNER. I now desire to offer in evidence what purports to be a copy of minutes of a meeting held on November 29, 1949, of the Progressive Party of Pennsylvania, western region, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 61."

Mr. WALTER. Without objection it will be so marked and received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 61," is filed herewith.)⁶⁰

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine exhibit 61 and state whether or not you can identify in the minutes the names of persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Starting at the top of the page, I shall mention only Communist Party members:

Charles M. Kerns, Jr., county chairman of the Progressive Party, Allegheny County; Zalmon H. Garfield; Alexander Wright; Nicholas Lazaris; Maurice Shindler; William Gordon; Allen Thomas; and Milo Mamula. The names I mentioned are all members of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, there has been found among the papers which you have produced in response to the subpoena duces tecum, a list entitled "Participants in the Meeting, Veterans Committee of

⁶⁰ See appendix.

Western Pennsylvania Against Mundt-Nixon Bill," which shows 14 persons present at the meeting. I desire to offer this list in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 62."

Mr. WALTER. Without objection it will be marked and received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 62," is filed herewith.)⁶¹

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine that list and state how many of the 14, if any, are known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. There are 14 names on here, and 8 are members of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you give the names of those known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Alex Steinberg; Paul Matanic; Arthur Bartl; Charles M. Kerns, Jr.; George Nichols; Eben Matles; Jack Sartisky, and George S. Wuchinich.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, this concludes the testimony relating to the Progressive Party, but I would like at this time to introduce in evidence the rest of the records which have been produced by Mr. Cvetic, and ask that they be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 63" for further study in connection with the records of the hearing.

Mr. WALTER. Let them be marked and received.

(The documents above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 63," are filed herewith.)⁶²

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, we will now take up the American Slav Congress. As you have gone into detail on this organization during your previous testimony before the committee, the following questions will be based on the documents produced by you in response to the subpoena duces tecum relating to the American Slav Congress.

There is one preliminary question, however, I desire to ask you. These documents contain a file marked "Clergy and Professionals Committee." I will offer this file in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 64."

Mr. WALTER. Let it be marked and received.

(The file above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 64," is filed herewith.)⁶³

Mr. WALTER. I think it might be well at this time to make the announcement that if any of the people whose names have been mentioned desire to refute the accusation made, they will be given an opportunity to do so.

Mr. KEARNEY. I thoroughly agree with the chairman. As a matter of fact, it was my intention to offer that suggestion. I think that any of these persons who are named here by any of the witnesses should have an opportunity to appear before the committee and refute the testimony.

Mr. WALTER. That is particularly true of the Progressive Party situation, because while it was thoroughly riddled by Communists, nevertheless there are a lot of well-meaning people in that movement who are not Communists.

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. Actually, it was a slow process. When the American Slav Congress was started there were very few Com-

⁶¹ See appendix.

⁶² See appendix.

⁶³ See appendix.

munists in it, but after 1944 they were practically all Communists. The same with the Progressive Party. But the Communist Party did concentrate on, and in Western Pennsylvania took control of, the Progressive Party. It was a part of the whole program. What they like to do is form a coalition with any progressive or liberal group they can. I listen to Max Weiss, district organizer for the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania, explain the importance of forming coalitions with progressive and liberal groups, and then, "when you gain control, take over and liquidate the rest."

I think we have seen countries forming coalitions and later becoming victims of treason trials and some were liquidated. We see what is happening to the coalitions in the eastern European countries, and I think it should be a warning to the American people here that the Communist Party is planning the same program here.

Mr. WALTER. Even to the point of liquidation?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. The Communist Party has only one objective in their infiltration in trade-unions and mass organizations.

Mr. KEARNEY. It seems to me a lot of these good people are on the sucker list.

Mr. CVETIC. It is unfortunate they don't realize the seriousness of it. While some are innocent, I am sorry to say some are not. We mentioned Louis Adamic here, who is not a Communist Party member to the best of my knowledge, yet one of his books was proofread by Tony Minerich, who has been a known Communist Party member for over 20 years. Today Louis is in the Communist doghouse. It is a dangerous game. The Communists don't have any respect for the people who are gullible enough to accept them as brothers.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine exhibit 64 and state what was the plan used by the American Slav Congress to induce clergymen to take part in the activities of the group?

Mr. CVETIC. This file, which is marked "Clergy and Professionals Committee," was a file which was set up by the American Slav Congress, Nationality Commission, for the 1944 convention. The purpose of this file—and the purpose was outlined in a nationality commission meeting of the Communist Party—was to involve as many clergymen and professional people as we could in the national convention of the American Slav Congress in Pittsburgh in 1944.

We worked out a campaign, headed by Tony Minerich, a Communist Party member identified by me here, and Rev. Vioslav Gachinovich, also a member of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh. Mr. Minerich and Rev. Gachinovich were responsible for setting up a program to involve the clergy and professional people in the national convention.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall whether the Reverend Vioslav Gachinovich was a member of the nationality commission of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. At that time he sat down with members of the nationality commission separate and aside. Because of his position, he met with Mr. Minerich, or he met with myself and other leaders, for the purpose of discussing this particular project.

Mr. TAVENNER. But he was not a member of the nationality commission of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Not at that time; no.

Mr. TAVENNER. Proceed.

Mr. CVETIC. The first thing they did in connection with the campaign was to address a letter to prominent clergymen in Pittsburgh:

DEAR REVEREND: A group of 10 clergymen met on August 10 and decided to issue an invitation to a larger meeting of Slav clergymen to consider the Second American Slav Congress.

They say here a group of 10 clergymen met and decided to issue these invitations. Actually there was no such meeting. This whole program was hammered out in the nationality commission of the Communist Party. There was no meeting of 10 clergymen. The letter was sent out over Reverend Gachinovich's signature by Mary Pirinsky, who was working for the American Slav Congress at the time. I have previously identified her as a member of the Communist Party.

This letter was mailed to a list of about 200 to 300 clergymen. Later another letter was sent out. I don't know if I should go into more detail, but the entire campaign was planned by the nationality commission of the Communist Party. That is the way it is done. Where one person will sit down and do the work, we will talk about mass movements. Usually one or two people are assigned by the Communist Party to work on a particular phase of a campaign. We were successful in involving many clergymen in the patriotic programs we had during wartime.

Mr. WALTER. The committee will stand in recess until 2:30.

(Thereupon, at 11:50 a. m., Tuesday, March 14, 1950, a recess was taken until 2 p. m. of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

(The hearing was resumed at 2:40 p. m., Hon. Burr P. Harrison presiding.)

Mr. HARRISON. The committee will come to order.

You may proceed.

TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, I had handed you, at the end of the morning session, exhibit 64, a file marked "Clergy and Professionals Committee." In the course of your testimony you referred to a person by the name of Anthony Minerich as being one of those who assisted in organizing the clergy back of American Slav Congress work. Who is Anthony Minerich?

Mr. CVETIC. Anthony Minerich—

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you spell the name, please?

Mr. CVETIC. M-i-n-e-r-i-c-h. He also spells his name M-a-j-n-e-r-i-c-h. He has been a leader in the Communist Party for more than 20 years, having been active in trade-unions and in the nationality work. He has made at least one trip to Europe for the Communist Party that I know of, and that was about 2 years ago, when Mr. Minerich went to Yugoslavia and came back and reported extensively, touring the United States after returning from Yugoslavia.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence a document entitled "Summary—Raffle Distribution" which was found among the papers which the witness presented in compliance with the subpoena duces tecum, and I ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 65."

Mr. HARRISON. So received in evidence.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 65, is filed herewith.) ⁶⁴

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, will you examine that exhibit and see if it contains the names of persons who took part in the raffle?

Mr. CVETIC. This raffle was conducted by the American Slav Congress for the purpose of raising funds to carry on the radio broadcasts over radio station WLOA in Braddock.

Mr. TAVENNER. You see a list of names?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state which of those names are names of persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The following are Communist Party members:

Walter Kurowski from Monessen, Pa.;

Tony Lepovich, Bentleyville, Pa.;

Rose Knezevich, from Farrell, Pa.;

Arthur Bartl, from North Side, Pittsburgh;

Charles Vuich, from Trafford, Pa.;

John Zuskar, North Side, Pittsburgh;

Frank Borich, from Pittsburgh;

Vera Brook—she is the wife of Calvin Brook, whom I previously identified;

Martha Hubscher, whose maiden name was Novak, and who has been active in the Communist Party for a long time;

Nick Kelich, from Etna, Pa.;

Joe Mankin, whom I previously identified as working in the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union;

Joseph Filner, 3827 Beechwood Boulevard, Pittsburgh, Pa. He is a Communist Party member and one of the large contributors to the Communist Party in that area. I previously identified his wife, Sarah, who is also listed here, as a Communist Party member.

Bill Kompus, who works for the William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh and is a member of the hotel and restaurant workers' cell of the Communist Party;

Toni—her correct name is Antoinette—Nuss, a Communist Party member of South Side, Pittsburgh;

Donald Previel, from Pittsburgh, who has been active in the YPA whose most recent activity was going out in the coal fields with Daily Workers during the coal strike;

Theresa Turner, whom I have previously identified as a member of the Communist Party and a former executive secretary of the Civil Rights Congress;

Then there is a listing here, "UE District" and the names of Steve Rosner, Tom Quinn, Stan Loney, whom I have previously identified as Communist Party members.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know where Steve Rosner is now and what he is doing?

Mr. CVETIC. To the best of my knowledge Steve Rosner left Pittsburgh for Washington and was working with Arthur Gaeth on UE broadcasts. That is what I understand he has been doing. I haven't been in touch with him since he left Pittsburgh.

⁶⁴ See appendix.

Mr. HARRISON. None of these people you have identified as being members of the Communist Party are employees of the Federal Government, are they?

Mr. CVETIC. I understand some are former employees of the Federal Government, but to the best of my knowledge at the present time, unless I would study my testimony, I would hesitate to say.

Mr. HARRISON. If you run across any who are, identify them.

Mr. CVETIC. I know in my previous testimony I identified a doctor I understood was with the State Department some time ago. I don't know whether he is still there.

Mr. HARRISON. Who is he?

Mr. CVETIC. Dr. Victor Sharenkoff.

Mr. TAVENNER. Spell it.

Mr. CVETIC. Victor, V-i-c-t-o-r, Sharenkoff, S-h-a-r-e-n-k-o-f-f.

Mr. HARRISON. What did he do?

Mr. CVETIC. I don't know. This information was given to me. He was a member of our nationality commission.

Mr. HARRISON. You have no first-hand information that he was ever an employee of the State Department?

Mr. CVETIC. I have no first-hand knowledge.

Mr. HARRISON. Of whether he is or ever was a Government employee?

Mr. CVETIC. No first-hand knowledge.

I think this completes the list.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence another batch of papers headed "Tickets" and ask that they be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 66."

Mr. HARRISON. So ordered.

(The documents above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 66," are filed herewith.)⁶⁵

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state what that list purports to be?

Mr. CVETIC. This is a list of persons who had tickets for a garden party which the American Slav Congress held to raise money for the radio program on WLOA.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the list and state whether or not there appear thereon names of persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Anton Skvarich is a member of the North Side Club of the Communist Party.

Peter Skrtich, 2314 East Street, North Side, Pittsburgh, is a member of the Communist Party.

And I previously testified that Mike Dudash and Paul Kluvo are members of the party.

There are names here I have previously mentioned in connection with American Slav Congress activities. I don't know whether I should repeat them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes; repeat them, to show their activities.

Mr. CVETIC. Louis Filetich, Martin Krasich, Arthur Bartl, Michael Hanusiak, Nick Baltich, Calvin Brook, George Wuchinich, Joe Rudiak, Jean Vidmar, Paul Radus, Joseph Vrbani, 4815 Breezeport Street, Pittsburgh; Frank Pauk, whose address is given as 1916 East Street. At that time he was employed there. He lives at Perrysville, Pa.

John Rusin, Joseph Harajevich, and Mane Susnjak.

⁶⁵ See appendix.

Mr. TAVENNER. I tender in evidence a sheaf of papers obtained from the same source, which has as its head "Trade-Unionists, Western Pennsylvania," and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 67."

Mr. HARRISON. Received in evidence.

(The papers above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 67," are filed herewith.) ⁶⁶

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you describe the purpose of that compilation of names?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This is a list of trade-unionists which we used in the offices of the American Slav Congress to contact on some of our activities. In other words, it is a type of list which we this morning referred to as contacts, people to be contacted to try to involve them in some of our activities. Some of them are Communist Party members.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state the names of those who are known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Nicholas Lazaris.

Mr. TAVENNER. Incidentally, is the list broken down into the names of unions?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. It is broken down into A. F. of L., CIO, United Mine Workers, District 6 UE, and then a combined list of CIO and A. F. of L.

Mr. TAVENNER. In calling out the names of those who are Communists, will you break them down as they are broken down on the list?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

In the A. F. of L., the following are Communist Party members: Nicholas Lazaris, Hotel and Restaurant Workers' Union of Pittsburgh.

In the CIO: Tony Salopek, who at the time was with Local 1256, United Steel Workers of America. I understand he has since been voted out.

In the combined list of CIO and A. F. of L.: Thomas J. Fitzpatrick, District 6, UE; Theodore Wright, Box 426, Wilmerding, Pa. I know Theodore Wright to be a former member of the district committee of the Communist Party in Western Pennsylvania and active in Local 610 of the United Electrical Workers. I have attended many functionary and committee meetings of the Communist Party with Ted Wright; Herbert Nusser, from North Side, Pittsburgh; Steve Suto, Homestead, Pa., active at Carnegie Steel in Homestead; Elmer Kish, identified previously by me as being active at Homestead Steel in Pittsburgh; William L. Heiston, who at this time was residing at Turtle Creek, Pa., was a Communist Party organizer in United Electrical Workers. I believe in the past year he has left Pittsburgh; Walter Kurowski, from Monessen, Pa., previously identified by me as being active in the United Steel Workers in that area.

Mr. HARRISON. Who are these people?

Mr. CVETIC. Contacts; trade-union and prominent people to be contacted and an effort made to involve them in some of our activities.

Mr. HARRISON. People who have previously responded to such calls?

Mr. CVETIC. Not necessarily. We kept lists of people we tried to involve in some of our activities. Some were clergymen; some were professional people; and we also included the political leaders.

⁶⁶ See p. 1330.

Mr. HARRISON. This has the names of quite a few prominent people. How did their names get here? Who put them on this list?

Mr. CVETIC. Usually they would be supplied. Either we would compile them or get them from another front organization. In the American Slav Congress we had a list of over 5,000 individuals and organizations. All these front organizations would work together. If I wanted the leaders of the UE trade-unions, I would contact our people in the UE. It would depend what activity we had. If it was a type of activity in which we felt we should involve some political leaders, we would contact them.

Mr. HARRISON. I notice here the name of a mayor of some small town. Does that indicate that mayor has made himself available to contacts in the Communist Party, or not?

Mr. CVETIC. Not necessarily yes or no. Some have and some have not. The fact they have not made themselves available does not mean we did not contact them. We had lists in our files of all the political leadership. If we organized an activity in one town, sometimes we would send out a blanket letter.

Mr. HARRISON. The politicians on this list are not to be regarded as being friendly to the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. If I can look at the list, I can tell whether they have or not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is this list used similarly to the "sucker" list of the Civil Rights Congress group?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. It would be used in the same way.

Mr. HARRISON. There is some difference between what you call a "sucker" list and a contact list?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This would not be the same type of list.

Mr. HARRISON. This would indicate more likelihood of receptive contact based on previous contact?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. It would mean in some form or another we were able to involve him to favorably respond on one or two activities. Maybe it was a small thing like getting a clergyman to get on a sponsors' list. Once he had sponsored something he would be subject to being called to sponsor something else.

Mr. HARRISON. Would he know he was being contacted by the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. In most of the cases I would say "No."

Mr. HARRISON. All right. Let's leave it at that.

Mr. TAVENNER. I tender in evidence another list of names under the heading "Pittsburgh Delegates" and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 68."

Mr. HARRISON. Have you offered that 67 in evidence?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. HARRISON. I think the whole committee had better pass on that. I don't want the full responsibility. We will mark 67 for identification only, and I think it should be considered in executive session by the full committee.

Mr. CVETIC. Mr. Chairman, when you asked me about that previous list—

Mr. HARRISON. I am talking about 67 now.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The way the Communist Party works, we have commission meetings and discuss the plan within the framework of the Communist Party first, then we go into the front organization.

If we can involve an individual on one thing, as soon as he puts his name to something he is used to the greatest extent we can use him.

Mr. HARRISON. Have these people put their names to something knowing it was sponsored by the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Some have on front organizations. There are individuals on that list who have sponsored some activities of the American Slav Congress.

Mr. HARRISON. And they are people regarded as friendly to the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; that is right.

Mr. HARRISON. That is what you are saying about exhibit 67, that the people on that list are in the files of the Communist Party as friendly to them?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right. Some of them in the last year or two have changed their attitude.

Mr. HARRISON. This exhibit 67 will be marked "Exhibit 67" for identification, and before it is received in evidence I think it should be passed upon by the full committee.

(The document above referred to, previously offered and received in evidence, is withdrawn from evidence and marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 67, for identification only.")

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you rule on the other paper offered as Cvetic exhibit No. 68."

Mr. HARRISON. This is Pittsburgh delegates to what?

Mr. CVETIC. To the 1946 national convention of the American Slav Congress.

Mr. HARRISON. This will be received in evidence.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 68," is filed herewith.)⁶⁷

Mr. CVETIC. It is true that many people are involved innocently in these front organizations. I would have to qualify each individual whose name is on the list according to my experience with that individual.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine exhibit 68 and state whether or not any of the persons whose names appear thereon are known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; there are.

Mr. TAVENNER. Give their names.

Mr. CVETIC. This is a list of delegates to the American Slav Congress National Convention held in Pittsburgh in September 1946. The following are known Communist Party members, and I am testifying to this on the basis of Communist Party members with whom I have attended committee or functionary meetings of the Communist Party:

Frank Tadej, T-a-d-e-j—he also spells it T-a-d-y;

Stephen Mirkovich;

Zare Werlinich;

Anthony Skvarich;

Joe Vrban;

Mary Sumrak;

Anna Pintar;

N. S. Loyen, who uses the name of Steve Loyen, one of the leaders of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh who went to Yugoslavia about 2 years ago;

⁶⁷ See appendix.

Stephen Devunich;

Joseph Migalich;

Arthur Bartl;

Leo Fisher;

Louis Filetich;

Frank Borich;

Mike Dudash;

Ladislav Sobol, from Etna, Pa.;

John Matelesko, M-a-t-e-l-e-s-k-o, who also uses the name Matles, M-a-t-l-e-s, from Conemaugh, Pa., in Cambria County;

Matthew Lepovich, from Bentleyville, Pa. I know him to be a member because I attended Communist Party meetings in Washington County with him at the home of Harold Spencer, who is also a Communist Party member. I wanted to qualify this man because he is a deputy sheriff in Washington County.

Mr. TAVENNER. Who is the person referred to as a deputy sheriff?

Mr. CVETIC. Matthew Lepovich.

[Continuing to name Communists:] Steve Merges;

Alexander Makushenko;

Anton Cipic;

Rev. Vioslav Gachinovich;

Mike Godich;

Anthony Minerich;

Martin Krasich;

Milo Mamula;

Mane Susnjar;

Paul Kluvo;

Michael Hanusiak;

John Kowalski, South Side, Pittsburgh;

Calvin Brook;

Daisy Lolich. She is married now and her name is Bartl.

Rev. Nikola Drenovac, a member of the Communist Party. He is now in Yugoslavia.

Nicholas Baltich;

Milena Gachinovich. She is the wife of Rev. Gachinovich and she is also in Yugoslavia.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence another list, headed "Delegates, contributors and officers of organizations to whom invitations have been sent to form an American Slav Congress Committee of Turtle Creek Valley" and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 69."

Mr. HARRISON. Mr. Witness, there is no reason to assume that the persons named on this list accepted such an invitation, is there?

Mr. CVETIC. Not at all.

Mr. HARRISON. I think we had better mark it 69 for identification, not to form a part of the permanent record of these proceedings.

(The document above referred to was marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 69 for identification only.")

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine exhibit 69, which has been admitted for identification only, and state whether or not it contains names of persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party, and if so, state their names.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This is a list of "Delegates, contributors and officers of organizations to whom invitations have been sent to form

an American Slav Congress Committee of Turtle Creek Valley." The following persons on that list are members of the Communist Party: Mary Kluko—

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me ask you another question at that point. Do you know whether any of those persons attended the meetings to which they were invited?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Mary Kluko did.

Mr. TAVENNER. If you know, state when you give us a name whether or not that individual did attend.

Mr. CVETIC. Mary Kluko was active in this committee and attended meetings as a result of this invitation.

Arminia Sardoch is a member of the Communist Party and he attended meetings.

John Bronich, while a member of the Communist Party, I can't say that he attended meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. I now offer in evidence a list of names appearing on the stationery of the Croatian Central Council, Pittsburgh, Pa., and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 70." I believe it purports to be a list of secretaries.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This is a list of secretaries of the Croatian Council of Western Pennsylvania.

Mr. HARRISON. It will be received in evidence and form a part of the record.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 70," is filed herewith.)⁶⁸

Mr. CVETIC. In this list, the following officers are members of the Communist Party:

Mary Sumrak, who is listed here as the vice president, Anna Devunich, secretary.

They are officers of the Women's Council.

Under the secretaries' list, which is of the complete council, the name of Frank Tady, North Side, Pittsburgh, appears. He is a secretary of the Croatian Council in Pittsburgh. He is a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. HARRISON. We will suspend for 10 or 15 minutes until I can go and vote. [Roll call vote being taken on floor of House.]

(Short recess.)

Mr. HARRISON. Proceed.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence a statement of the names of persons elected at the quarterly meeting, May 25, 1947, at the Mayfair Hotel, to a committee.

Mr. HARRISON. What kind of committee?

Mr. TAVENNER. I don't know. I will have to ask the witness. Before offering it I desire to show it to the witness and ask him to describe the committee.

Mr. CVETIC. This western Pennsylvania committee is a committee selected from the American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania.

Mr. HARRISON. It will be received in evidence.

Mr. TAVENNER. I ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 71."

Mr. HARRISON. It will be so marked.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 71," is filed herewith.)⁶⁹

⁶⁸ See appendix.

⁶⁹ See appendix.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think the list is broken down into subdivisions?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you give the names of the subdivisions and the names of any persons on the list known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Serbian section: Daisy Bartl, Milo Mamula, and George Wuchinich.

Slovak section: Paul Hodos, former manager of the American Slav Printing Co., 1916 East Street, North Side, Pittsburgh. He is now in Chicago, Ill. And Ladislav Sobol.

New Kensington: Mike Stanovich.

Croatian section: Arthur Bartl, Frank Kamalich, from North Side Pittsburgh, and Frank Tady, T-a-d-y, who also spells his name T-a-d-e-j.

South Side Russian section: John Kowalski.

Cokesburg and Bentleyville Area of Washington County, Pa.: Ned Rasovich.

Coverdale, Pa.: Anton Cipicic.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a list entitled "List of City Committee" and ask you to describe that list, what it means.

Mr. CVETIC. This is a list of the City Committee of the American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania. It is the city committee of the city of Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer it in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 72."

Mr. HARRISON. Received in evidence.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 72," is filed herewith.) ⁷⁰

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the list and state the names of persons on that list known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes:

Zare Werlinich, McKees Rocks, Pa.;

Mane Susnjar, North Side, Pittsburgh;

Nick Baltich, North Side, Pittsburgh;

Arthur Bartl, North Side, Pittsburgh;

Daisy Bartl, North Side, Pittsburgh;

Frank Tadej, North Side, Pittsburgh;

Joe Vrbanc, Lawrenceville, Pa.;

Leo Fisher, North Side, Pittsburgh;

Paul Radus, now in Cleveland, Ohio;

Steve Devunich, West View, Pa.;

Anna Devunich, West View, Pa.

Mr. TAVENNER. I now offer in evidence a sheaf of papers headed "Credentials" and ask that they be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 73."

Mr. HARRISON. Received in evidence.

(The papers above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 73," are filed herewith.) ⁷¹

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine these papers and state what they are?

⁷⁰ See appendix.

⁷¹ See appendix.

Mr. CVETIC. These are credentials for the tenth anniversary conference of the American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania, held at the Fort Pitt Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa., Sunday, June 13, 1948.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine each sheet and state whether or not the names appearing there are names of persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party, and if they are, state what union or other organization they represented at that conference.

Louis Vucich, from Rural Ridge, Pa., represented Lodge 626, Croatian Fraternal Union.

Matt Ahel, from North Side, Pittsburgh, represented Lodge 4308, IWO.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is IWO?

Mr. CVETIC. International Workers Order.

Here is a credential, local chapter of the Croatian Council, North Side, Pittsburgh: Anton Skvarich, Paul Radus, Peter Skrtich, John Strizich, Joseph Vrbanc, Frank Tadej.

The Serbian American Federation IWO National Committee delegate was Nicholas Baltich.

District 6, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, 549 Wabash Building, Pittsburgh, Pa., delegate: Thomas Quinn, 201 Beech Street, East Pittsburgh, Pa.

Polonia Society IWO, Lodge 3677, Springdale, Pa. There are three delegates listed here. The member of the Communist Party I can identify is Joe Chuplis, from Springdale, Pa.

International Workers Order, Export, Pa., delegate: Mike Stanovich, from Export.

American Yugoslav Progressive Association, "Sloga," McKeesport, Pa., delegate: Nick Godich.

Serbian Lodge 106, SNF—and that is the Serbian National Federation, a fraternal organization—delegate: Charles Vuich, from Trafford, Pa.

Croatian Fraternal Union, Lodge No. 1, North Side, Pittsburgh. Five delegates are listed. The Communist Party delegate is Steve Devunich from West View, Pa.

Committee of United Lodges, Brownsville, Pa., delegates: Steve Straka and Eva Jandrakovic. She is married now and her name is Straka.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you another two pages of names marked at the top "Received at the dance." Will you state what that list is?

Mr. CVETIC. This was a dance that the American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania held in conjunction with a raffle in February 1949 to raise money for the radio broadcast.

Mr. HARRISON. These are people who came to the dance?

Mr. CVETIC. They sold tickets. We raffled a television at the dance.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer it in evidence as "Cvetic Exhibit No. 74."

Mr. HARRISON. It will be received in evidence.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 74," is filed herewith.) ⁷²

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the list and state the names of those who are members, to your knowledge, of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Herb Glickman, Vera Brook, Jean Vidmar, Mike Hanusiak, Bill Kompus, Leo Fisher, Donald Previel, Dr. Ray Valin-

⁷² See appendix.

sky, who is a dentist in Pittsburgh, and I want to state my reasons for knowing he is a member of the Communist Party, because he is very prominent in that area. Dr. Ray Valinsky taught me in a Communist Party class in the home of Ann Lipkind in Squirrel Hill, Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. When?

Mr. CVETIC. As long as 5 years ago. He taught me in one of the first Communist Party classes I ever attended.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a paper and ask if you can identify it?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. This is part of the records on the television set we raffled, and the name Tony Lepovich appears on it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you already testified regarding him?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I identified him as a Communist Party member.

Mr. TAVENNER. In what connection have you already identified him, do you recall?

Mr. CVETIC. I attended district committee meetings of the Communist Party with Tony Lepovich, and attended at least two Communist Party functionary meetings with him.

Mr. TAVENNER. He is not the same person as the one you referred to as being a deputy sheriff?

Mr. CVETIC. No.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is he related?

Mr. CVETIC. That is a brother.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer this document in evidence, and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 75."

Mr. HARRISON. It will be received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 75," is filed herewith.)⁷³

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you another paper and ask you to identify it.

Mr. CVETIC. This is headed "District Committee Western Pennsylvania, National Council of Americans of Croatian Descent." The list is dated October 4, 1947.

Mr. HARRISON. Is that a Communist-front organization?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, it is.

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer this document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 76."

Mr. HARRISON. So received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 76," is filed herewith.)⁷⁴

Mr. CVETIC. I previously testified that the national executive secretary is a Communist Party member, and the local secretaries I have mentioned so far are also Communist Party members.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state the names of those appearing on the committee list known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Stephen Devunich, Anton Cipic, Frank Kamalich, Joseph Migalich, Arthur Bartl, Ivan Bronich, I also identified him under the name of John.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you another television record slip. Will you examine it and state whether or not the person whose name appears thereon is a member of the Communist Party, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Mary Matlesko, who also uses the name of Matles, resides at Conemaugh, Pa. She is a member of the Communist Party.

⁷³ See appendix.

⁷⁴ See appendix.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the significance of that record?

Mr. CVETIC. This is a record of the raffle books for which she was responsible in that area.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 77."

Mr. HARRISON. So received.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 77," is filed herewith.) ⁷⁵

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence a mimeographed list entitled "Newly Elected Officers, American Slav Congress Western Pennsylvania Conference, Sunday, June 13, 1948, Fort Pitt Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa." and ask that it be marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 78."

Mr. HARRISON. So received in evidence.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 78," is filed herewith.) ⁷⁶

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you state what the exhibit shows?

Mr. CVETIC. These are the newly elected officers of the American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania, elected at a conference on Sunday, June 13, 1948, at the Fort Pitt Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are any of the persons named as officers on that list known to you to be members of the Communist Party, and if so will you give their names?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The following officers who were elected at this conference were Communist Party members:

President, Joseph Rudiak;

Vice president, Paul Matanic;

Secretary, George S. Wuchinich;

Treasurer, myself;

The board of directors:

Croatian section, Communist Party members: Helen Migalich; Frank Borich; Leo Fisher; Anna Devunich; Arthur Bartl; and ex officio we also elected Anthony Minerich, who was absent in Yugoslavia. There were seven elected, and six were members of the Communist Party.

Serbian section, four elected: The following were members of the Communist Party: Mary Kluko; Milo Mamula; Charles Vuich; and Nicholas Baltich.

Slovene section, there were five elected. I was a member of the board of directors, and the other person listed whom I can identify as a Communist Party member is John Vidmar. He is the only Communist Party member on this list.

Ukrainian section, Michael Hanusiak.

Polish section, there were five elected. Of these five, the following are Communist Party members: Paul Kluvo; Jean Bakowski—she is married now and her name is Rudiak, the wife of Joseph Rudiak, the president; and Walter Kurowski.

Russian section, Steve Merges. He has since moved to Cleveland, Ohio.

Carpatho-Russian section: John Matlesko, from Conemaugh, Pa. He also uses the name of Matles. He is the only one of three who is a Communist Party member.

⁷⁵ See appendix.

⁷⁶ See appendix.

Slovak section: Calvin Brook, Martha Hubscher, whose maiden name is Novak, and John Zuskar.

Then we also selected a regional committee of western Pennsylvania. Shall I go right into the regional committee?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. For the McKeesport, Rankin, Clairton, Braddock area, four were elected. Mike Godich is the only one of the four who is a Communist Party member.

Fayette County, Brownsville, and Uniontown, four were elected. Steve Straka is a Communist Party member.

Canonsburg, McDonald, Bentleyville, Cokeburg area, four were elected. Steve Paich from Canonsburg, Pa., is a Communist Party member.

Library, Coverdale area, Anton Cipicic.

Farrell, Pa., area, Rose Knezevich.

Allegheny Valley area, Frank Malkovich.

These were Communist Party members.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer now in evidence a checkbook on the Potter Title & Trust Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., covering the period from November 19, 1947, to May 13, 1948, inclusive, in which the account is shown as having been carried in the name of American Slav Congress of Western Pennsylvania. First, I would like to ask whether this is one of the records which you obtained and which you brought in response to the subpoena duces tecum?

Mr. CVETIC. It is.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer this checkbook in evidence as Cvetic exhibit No. 79.

Mr. HARRISON. It will be received in evidence.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 79," is filed herewith.) ⁷⁷

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the checkbook stub for the 8th of December 1947, No. 6, and state what it is, please.

Mr. CVETIC. This check No. 6, dated December 8, 1947, was paid to the Council on African Affairs, and it was the balance on Robeson's contract for a December 5 festival which the American Slav Congress held at Carnegie Music Hall on that date, in the amount of \$764.05.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the date of the festival?

Mr. CVETIC. December 5, 1947.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated it was a check for Robeson?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. What Robeson?

Mr. CVETIC. Paul Robeson, singer and speaker.

Mr. TAVENNER. That was for his appearance?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. But the check was made to the Council on African Affairs?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say it was a balance due?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was there a previous payment made to him?

⁷⁷ See appendix.

Mr. CVETIC. We had originally made a check to Max Yergan in the amount of \$350, and later this check was canceled. I think I would have to go into the entire transaction to explain.

Mr. TAVENNER. Please do.

Mr. CVETIC. We had a meeting of the nationality commission of the Communist Party in the fall of 1947, and at this meeting we decided to invite Paul Robeson to come and sing and speak for the American Slav Congress.

Mr. TAVENNER. When we say "we" to whom do you refer?

Mr. CVETIC. The nationality commission.

Mr. TAVENNER. Of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Of the Communist Party. We would make a decision in the nationality commission and then it would be projected through the American Slav Congress. At that time our secretary was George Wuchinich, and I was the treasurer. We contracted, through Max Yergan, for Paul Robeson's appearance on December 5 for the sum of \$1,000. The affair, however, was not as successful as we had hoped, and after some dickering with Max Yergan and Paul Robeson, who were irked because it was not as financially successful as we had hoped, we dickered with them and settled for this \$764.05.

Actually, Max Yergan was calling us 2 days before the concert came on wanting his money. We had to put him off because ticket money wasn't coming in fast enough, but finally we settled for \$764.05.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall other occasions when you paid large sums to speakers brought before the American Slav Congress at the instance of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. At this same festival held on December 5, 1947, we had as a speaker Louis Adamic, who was an author. We contracted, through W. Colston Leigh, Inc., a booking agency, for Louis Adamic as a speaker, and paid him \$350 to speak at this festival.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, the Council on African Affairs, to whom the check of December 8, 1947, was made payable, was cited as subversive and Communist in letter from Attorney General Tom Clark to the Loyalty Review Board, released December 4, 1947.

Mr. CVETIC. I notice there are several checks payable to George Wuchinich. Will you describe those checks and state what they are for?

Mr. CVETIC. While there are many entries for George Wuchinich, check No. 24, dated March 13, 1948, was made out to George S. Wuchinich in the amount of \$311.10. Of this \$75 was for return of a loan which George made to the American Slav Congress, and \$236.10 was for January salary, ending January 31, 1948.

Mr. TAVENNER. How much was his monthly salary?

Mr. CVETIC. \$250 a month.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he receive at the same time salaries from any other front organizations to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. I had no knowledge of his getting funds from any other front organization.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, this concludes the American Slav Congress, except that I desire to offer in evidence the remaining documents which he presented. I desire to offer them in bulk and have them marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 80."

Mr. HARRISON. Of course, when you offer them in evidence they are printed as part of the record.

Mr. TAVENNER. They may be, but they need not be. That was called to our attention by Mr. Walter this morning, and it was the understanding that several documents be admitted, the full list of names appearing therein would not be published, for the same reason you stated in ruling on proposed Cvetic exhibit No. 67.

Mr. HARRISON. I think exhibit 67 should go to the full committee for consideration.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is your ruling on No. 80?

Mr. HARRISON. No. 80 will be received.

(The documents above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 80," are filed herewith.)⁷⁸

Mr. CVETIC. I would like to conclude my testimony with names I have not mentioned.

Mr. HARRISON. How long will it take you to do that?

Mr. CVETIC. I think 10 minutes.

Mr. HARRISON. Very well.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, in the Civil Rights Congress files which you have presented in response to the subpoena duces tecum, there was found a membership list of the Congress of American Women, which organization was cited as subversive by the Committee on Un-American Activities. I now hand you that list. Are you acquainted with the organization of this group in western Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes; I am. Some of the technical work of this organization was done in the American Slav Congress office.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like you to tell us about that. Do you mean to state that part of the work of organizing the Congress of American Women was done in your office?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. The office of the American Slav Congress in Western Pennsylvania was made available to the Civil Rights Congress, Congress of American Women, to the Communist Party, and to other organizations who wanted to use it to do other technical work. To this extent, the Communist Party members active in this organization used our office. We had mimeograph machines and typewriters.

Mr. TAVENNER. What connection, if any, did the Communist Party have with the organization of the Congress of American Women in western Pennsylvania?

Mr. CVETIC. My only knowledge is that some of the active members in this organization, listed here, met at the office of the American Slav Congress from time to time with Communist Party leaders to discuss the plans of the Congress of American Women. Usually these meetings were held, however, in the offices of the Communist Party, and on various occasions when I dropped in there I would sit down and discuss some of the policies, too.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine the list I have just handed you? First, I desire to offer it in evidence as Cvetic exhibit No. 81.

Mr. HARRISON. It will be received in evidence.

(The document above referred to, marked "Cvetic Exhibit No. 81," is filed herewith.)⁷⁹

Mr. TAVENNER. Now will you state the names of any persons appearing on that list who are known to you as members of the Communist Party?

⁷⁸ See appendix.

⁷⁹ See appendix.

Mr. CVETIC. First, I would like to identify the two Communist Party members assigned by the Communist Party to direct the work from the Communist Party side. One is Mrs. Lawrence Schultz, who resides at 1527 Alabama Avenue, Dormont, Pittsburgh. The other is Mrs. Georgia Reed, wife of Sam Reed, who recently has been transferred to Erie. These two women, Communist Party members, usually carried on the technical work. They often called and asked me if they could use the office.

Other Communist Party members on this list are:

Mrs. Anna Devunich; Mrs. Milena Gachinovich, who has since gone to Yugoslavia; Eleanor Sackter; Daisy Bartl; Mary Sumrak; Miss Evelyn Abelson; Mrs. Alma Robinson; Vera Brook; and Mrs. Frances Begler. These are all members of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, in going over these various documents which you have presented here with members of the staff, you have recalled a meeting, I understand, which was held in Pittsburgh in 1946 and which was addressed by William Z. Foster. Will you now describe that meeting to us?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. In the late fall or early winter of 1946, November or December 1946, the Communist Party in Pittsburgh held a meeting at the Carnegie Music Hall in North Side. William Z. Foster, the chairman of the Communist Party, United States of America, was the principal speaker. One of the main themes that he used at this particular meeting—I attended the meeting as a member of the arrangements committee and was also William Z. Foster's chauffeur, taking him to the meeting and back to the station, so I know what I am talking about—the main theme of his talk went something like this:

"If the war-makers"—and I am quoting William Z. Foster—"think they can ever defeat the Soviet Union, they have another think coming."

This was a speech in the Communist Party while our country was busy disarming, as early as late 1946. I heard William Z. Foster make that statement.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that statement made in private or during the course of a speech?

Mr. CVETIC. It was made during the course of his speech.

Mr. TAVENNER. What other discussion was held within the Communist Party on this subject, to your knowledge?

Mr. CVETIC. I believe I previously testified that at this particular meeting that William Z. Foster stressed the importance of setting up a new People's Party, and that all the members should work for the building of a new People's Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you ever have a discussion with Steve Nelson, or did you hear in a conference Steve Nelson say anything regarding the leadership of the Communist Party in the Western District of Pennsylvania in the event he was not available for continued leadership?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I would like to report on a meeting I attended late last summer at 943 Liberty Avenue which Steve Nelson addressed. The particular meeting dealt with the Communist Party leadership. The meeting was addressed by Steve Nelson, who is the district organizer at the present time for the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania.

At this meeting Steve Nelson stressed the importance, to the leading party functionaries who were present at this meeting, that all of us should be prepared to assume leadership if and when any of the leaders of the Communist Party are deposed by any means. He elaborated on this by calling attention that we don't know when any of us may be in concentration camps, and he used such terms as the party leadership might be "decapitated" and we should be prepared to assume leadership if anyone is removed, and if an emergency situation should arise we should all be prepared to assume leadership in the party.

Whenever he referred to concentration camps and started talking about the leadership being deposed, while he did not qualify himself, Steve Nelson always did refer in conversations to this country as the enemy, and my only inference from his instructions to be followed in an "emergency situation" was that he meant in case of war between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have reviewed these records carefully, have you not?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. On the basis of your further study of the records produced under the subpoena duces tecum, can you identify as members of the Communist Party persons in addition to those already identified by you?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I would be glad to do that.

First, something I think would be of interest to the committee, in Communist Party meetings whenever we refer to Premier Joseph Stalin, he is always Comrade Stalin. He is always Comrade Stalin in our meetings. That is absolute.

I would like to identify the following as Communist Party members and state my reasons for stating they are members:

James Bashista: I have attended Communist Party functionary meetings with him at 943 Liberty Avenue.

Jerome Benton: He also uses the name of Jerry Benton. In 1943, 1944, and 1945, Jerry Benton was a Communist Party organizer in McKeesport, Pa. He taught me in one of the first party schools I went to.

George Brkljacic: I used to collect his party dues. He lived in McKees Rocks, Pa. He is now in Yugoslavia.

Charlotte Chandler: She was a Communist Party organizer in the Professional Branch, 1943 to 1945, and active in the American Soviet Friendship Council.

Mrs. Judy Cogan—C-o-g-a-n or K-o-g-a-n: She was secretary of the professional branch of the Communist Party in 1943 and 1944 when I first got into the party.

Betty Drake: She has been active for the Communist Party in UE in East Pittsburgh.

Dorothy Farraday: Formerly a member of the South Side Club of the Communist Party. She has married and left the city in the past year.

Tony Gerlach, Jr., New York City: Active in the youth movement.

Mary Golden: Wife of Hamp Golden, previously identified. Active in women's organizations.

Carolyn Hart: Communist Party member active in the professional branch in 1943 and 1945.

Eric Walter Hubscher, husband of Martha Hubscher: I have attended Communist party meetings with him.

Pete Knezevich, from Farrell, Pa.: A member of the district committee of the Communist Party and the key figure for the Communist Party in the Farrell-Sharon area.

Mac Mandell, husband of Florence Mandell, previously identified, and a former member of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and a former secretary of the professional branch of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh.

Agnes Mankin: A member of the North Side Club of the Communist Party. She is the wife of Joe Mankin.

Anne Markovich: She is the wife of Mirko Markovich, and she and Mirko are now in Yugoslavia.

Eilene Matanic, the wife of Paul: She is a member of the Communist Party. Two years ago, under her maiden name, she attended a youth festival in Prague.

John Middleton: A national organizer for the International Workers Order.

Virginia Muir: Office secretary to George Pirinsky, New York City. George Pirinsky is the national executive secretary of the American Slav Congress.

Ludwig Mutz, New York City: Active in nationality work in that area.

"Ricky"—and that is a nickname—Roth, sister of Esther Roth: She is married and now in California.

Jack Shore, and also Barbara Shore, who were members of the professional branch when I joined the party in 1943 and 1944, and Jack at that time was studying at Carnegie Tech.

Anton Svec, 21050 Goller, Cleveland, Ohio: Active in the UAW in Cleveland and also in nationality work.

Wilbur White, Erie, Pa.: A former member of the district committee on the Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania.

Dr. Joseph Wolfe, optometrist, from East End, Pittsburgh: He attended the recent Mexico peace conference.

John Wassell and his wife, Mary Wassell, from California, Pa.

Charles Young and his wife Ruth Young: They were members of the professional branch of the Communist Party. I collected dues from both of them. They are now residing in the State of Virginia. They left in 1945 or 1946 to go to Virginia. At the time they lived in Pittsburgh. Ruth Young worked for the United States Employment Service.

Here are three additional ones:

Rachel Cooper: A member of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh.

Rudy Martonovich, who was one of the editors of the Language Press, 1916 East Street. He is now in Yugoslavia.

Ida May Adams, with whom I have attended at least two Communist Party functionary meetings.

I would like to add the name of Frank Modic of Detroit, Mich., who was a Communist Party member active in UAW and nationality work in and around Detroit.

On the basis of what I have here, this concludes my testimony.

Mr. HARRISON. I feel I express the feeling of all the members of this committee, from what I have heard the other members say and

from what I feel myself, that this committee is deeply grateful to you for your testimony of the last few days or week. Your testimony is important in uncovering the subversive activities that are so extensive in our country. In view of the tendency of a great many of our loyal people, including prominent public officials and editorial writers, to minimize and depreciate the danger of subversive activities in this country, I wish that every American could have the benefit of hearing your testimony. I believe that, if they did, there would not be such determined opposition to legislation designed within our constitutional framework to put the power of this Government to work to protect it from destruction by enemies from within.

Your conduct through the years has demonstrated a courage and a patriotism that entitled you to the gratitude of the American public. I wish you success in life.

(Thereupon, at 4:45 p. m. on Tuesday, March 14, 1950, the hearing was adjourned.)

EXPOSÉ OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BASED UPON TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC (UNDERCOVER AGENT)

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 1950

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Washington, D. C.
PUBLIC HEARING

AFTERNOON SESSION

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 4 p. m. in room 226, Old House Office Building, Hon. Francis E. Walter presiding until arrival of Hon. John S. Wood (chairman).

Committee members present: Representatives John S. Wood (chairman, arriving as noted), Francis E. Walter, Francis Case, Harold H. Velde, and Bernard W. Kearney (arriving as noted).

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, Jr., counsel; William Jackson Jones, investigator; John W. Carrington, clerk; and A. S. Poore, editor.

Mr. WALTER. Are you ready to proceed?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

Mr. WALTER. Mr. Cvetic, will you raise your right hand. You swear the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mr. CVETIC. I do.

TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW CVETIC—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Cvetic, you have previously testified before this committee concerning Communist Party activities in and around Pittsburgh, Pa. This afternoon we would like to interrogate you concerning Communist Party activities in Johnstown and Portage, Pa., and their surrounding areas. Are you acquainted with Communist Party activities in those localities, and, if so, what has been your opportunity to learn of Communist activities in those communities?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I am, at least to a limited degree, acquainted with Communist Party activities in those communities which are located in Cambria County and surrounding counties, and the purpose of the Communist Party in this area, as it is in all industrial sections, is to infiltrate the unions for the purpose of carrying their program into these unions, and of course their ultimate objective is to use them as a base with which to overthrow the United States Government.

Mr. TAVENNER. What has been your opportunity to observe Communist activity in those communities?

Mr. CVETIC. Well, I have been assigned by the district office of the Communist Party in Western Pennsylvania on various occasions to go to Cambria County and carry the party line to the Communist Party members in that area.

Mr. TAVENNER. And did you go to Cambria County in response to those instructions which you received?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you briefly describe to the committee what occurred on these visits that you made to Cambria County?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. These meetings were usually called by the district organizer of the Communist Party out of the district office in Pittsburgh, and while I was in the Communist Party I was sent to Cambria County on several occasions, either by Roy Hudson, Steve Nelson, Joe Godfrey, or Max Weiss, all of whom were Communist Party functionaries in western Pennsylvania. I was sent to the Cambria County district on many occasions to meet with Communist Party members there and to carry the party line to them. Usually this would take place when there was some new change in the party line, or when we had a fund drive for the Communist Party, or when we were organizing a new drive for the Sunday and Daily Worker. Also, I was to take up the routine business of collecting the dues from the party members up there. Dues collection and membership recruiting were always a part of a Communist Party meeting agenda.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you describe to the committee some of these meetings which you attended, and name, if you can, those who were present at those meetings and were known to you to be members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I previously testified to having met with John Matelesko—that is spelled M-a-t-e-l-e-s-k-o; it is also spelled M-a-t-l-e-s-k-a; and he also uses the name of M-a-t-l-e-s—and his wife Mary. I previously testified that both of these persons are members of the Communist Party.

Some of the other persons who attended the meetings up there and helped to organize them were: A person I knew as R. J. Hardin, H-a-r-d-i-n. Hardin was the Communist Party organizer for Cambria County. The way I knew this, we would have district committee meetings of the Communist Party in Pittsburgh, and usually he would be the one from Cambria County who would be invited to attend the meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he attend the meetings in response to the invitations?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I attended many meetings with Hardin.

Mr. TAVENNER. In Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, and also in Johnstown. Hardin lives in Ebensburg.

Mr. CASE. I am not sufficiently familiar with Pennsylvania counties and towns to know if Johnstown is in Cambria County. Is it?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes, and Ebensburg is also in Cambria County.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the community known as Portage?

Mr. CVETIC. That is in Cambria County.

Mr. TAVENNER. How far is Johnstown from Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. About 75 miles; 70 to 75 miles, approximately.

Mr. TAVENNER. In which direction?

Mr. CVETIC. Going east of Pittsburgh.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you identify the approximate time when the meetings occurred in Johnstown, which you attended?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. One of the first meetings I attended up there was as early as 1945, and I was asked by the district office of the Communist Party to go there once or twice a year. The reason I wasn't asked to go more often, different organizers in the Communist Party were asked to go to Johnstown. Sometimes it was Jim Dolsen; sometimes it would be Roy Hudson himself; more recently Bill Albertson or Steve Nelson would go to Johnstown. The last time I was asked to go there was about 3 months ago, but the plans were changed and somebody else was sent up.

Mr. TAVENNER. When was the last time you went up there?

Mr. CVETIC. About 2 years ago, going up for the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Between 1945 and the period 2 years ago, how frequently do you think you were there?

Mr. CVETIC. I visited party members up there perhaps a dozen or more times.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mentioned R. J. Hardin as being one of those who attended Communist Party meetings with you in Pittsburgh and Johnstown.

Mr. CVETIC. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was his official position in the Communist Party at Johnstown, if you know?

Mr. CVETIC. He was the organizer for the Cambria County area.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were there any others who attended the meetings that you attended at that place?

Mr. CVETIC. I went to a taxidermist shop in Johnstown and collected Communist Party dues from a man whose last name was Easterbrook, but I never knew his first name. He operated a taxidermist shop in Johnstown.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you spell his name?

Mr. CVETIC. E-a-s-t-e-r-b-r-o-o-k.

Mr. TAVENNER. All one word?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I personally collected party dues from him. Then I collected party dues from a Mike Milkovich, M-i-l-k-o-v-i-c-h. I collected party dues and also Communist Party contributions from Mr. Milkovich. This has been some 3 years ago and I don't know what his party status is now, but I did collect Communist Party dues and contributions from him. He operates a wholesale pop distributing business in Johnstown.

Then I attended Communist Party meetings with Ann Slobodjian, S-l-o-b-o-d-j-i-a-n. She is active in the International Workers' Order in and around Johnstown.

Mr. TAVENNER. What business was conducted, if you can recall, at any of these meetings you attended?

Mr. CVETIC. My job as a party organizer was to collect dues from party members, and to collect contributions to the Communist Party, and bring them back to Pittsburgh. When I attended these meetings I usually led the meetings in the discussions and made sure I got all the dues and contributions, and turned them in to the Pittsburgh district office. Some of these members I visited at their homes.

Mr. TAVENNER. In addition to attending the meetings you have described in Johnstown, did you also attend meetings at Portage?

Mr. CVETIC. I attended meetings in and around Johnstown, and attended meetings in Portage and met comrades from coal mining towns in and around there. Since these men were afraid of retribution from the United Mine Workers, because there is a clause in its constitution that anybody belonging to the Communist Party will be automatically ousted from the United Mine Workers, their last names were usually kept secret, even from their own party members. While I met with 8 or 10 at a time, I never learned their last names, only their first names.

Mr. TAVENNER. So you are unable to identify those Communist Party members?

Mr. CVETIC. That is right, for the reason they never used their last names.

Mr. WALTER. Isn't it a fact that the Communist Party has been unable to recruit very many coal miners, because the miners are fearful lest they lost their jobs?

Mr. CVETIC. That is one of the reasons. The United Mine Workers does have that clause in its constitution, and it is waging an untiring fight against communism. Once when I spoke at a meeting in West Brownsville, in Washington County, with Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, I had to run for my life. I was making a Communist speech. It isn't safe to make a Communist speech to the coal miners.

Mr. CASE. Didn't you tell us in your previous testimony that in the recent strike packages of food were sent from New York to the coal mining districts, and they were giving out food with one hand and Communist Party literature with the other hand?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. CASE. Have you been there recently so that you know how that strategy worked?

Mr. CVETIC. My first knowledge of this came when I was already working on my testimony to come before this committee. I met with Bill Gordon, Communist Party member in western Pennsylvania, and he tried to involve me in the coal mining district. He said their program was to hand out a can of food with one hand and the Daily Worker with the other. He said if the miners accepted the can of food they could not turn down the Daily Worker. That was their program on Wednesday. The following day the first load of food came down from New York. The truck came loaded down with food and Daily Workers, and I understand the miners took the food and burned the Daily Workers and told the party members to get out of there. I think a lot of this was because of the exposé we made before this committee.

Mr. CASE. You think the testimony here helped to expose the method?

Mr. CVETIC. It was very instrumental in exposing them; very instrumental.

Mr. VELDE. What type of persons belonged to the party in Pittsburgh?

Mr. CVETIC. In Pittsburgh?

Mr. VELDE. And Johnstown.

Mr. CVETIC. You mean from a nationality background?

Mr. VELDE. Occupational.

Mr. CVETIC. Steel workers, coal miners, professional people, clerical workers; we had a well-rounded-out party. As to age, while in the nationality groups the party was growing with members up past the 60's, we were able to recruit some youth into the party.

Mr. VELDE. Do you know of any Government employees, or persons who had been Government employees, who are members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. I testified to that before this committee, that there were some Government employees, and I mentioned them by name.

Mr. VELDE. Do you recall now who they were?

Mr. CVETIC. One former Government employee who was instrumental in getting me in the Communist Party was Sidney Horwitz. He was working in the United States Employment Service, where I was employed at the time in Pittsburgh.

(Representative Kearney enters hearing room.)

Mr. VELDE. Is he still with the Employment Service?

Mr. CVETIC. No. The last I heard of him, he was teaching English at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, and I understand Duquesne gave him the choice of denying he was a member of the Communist Party or resigning, and I understand he resigned.

Mr. VELDE. Do you recall any other Government employees who were members of the Communist Party?

Mr. CVETIC. Dorothy Sloan also worked in the United States Employment Service. She also left the Employment Service at the request of the Government and she went to the west coast.

Mr. WALTER. Was there a Communist cell in Johnstown?

Mr. CVETIC. Right in Johnstown?

Mr. WALTER. Yes.

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. VELDE. Did you mention, in your previous testimony, Victor Sharenkoff?

(Representative Wood enters hearing room.)

Mr. CVETIC. I was on the Nationality Commission of the Communist Party, USA, and I met a Dr. Victor Sharenkoff in this particular cell. In recent years this cell has been led by Sam Milgrom.

Mr. TAVENNER. Spell the name.

Mr. CVETIC. M-i-l-g-r-o-m.

Mr. VELDE. Going back to Victor Sharenkoff, what was his position?

Mr. CVETIC. I knew him as a leader of the Bulgarian section of the Communist Party. U. S. A.

Mr. VELDE. Did he have any official connection with the United States Government?

Mr. CVETIC. While I have never had absolute knowledge of it, I have been informed he either was employed by the State Department or had some status with the State Department at one time, but I never of my own knowledge knew that, except I recollect in my meetings with Dr. Sharenkoff he stated or somebody stated he worked for the State Department. The reason I placed stress on Dr. Sharenkoff is because he does meet with Sam Milgrom, and Sam Milgrom, as I have reported to the FBI, is head of the Communist Party in the United States and has to a large extent replaced Peters. He stays pretty much in the background, but I attended a Communist Party meeting in Chicago where Gerhart Eisler was present, and I heard Milgrom telling Eisler what to do, so I figured Milgrom was the boss.

Mr. VELDE. Milgrom is in the Pittsburgh cell?

Mr. CVETIC. He is in the Nationality Commission of the Communist Party, USA. He directs it, and has been directing it for several years.

Mr. VELDE. Did you know J. Peters personally?

Mr. CVETIC. No; I didn't.

Mr. WOOD. Let the record disclose there is a quorum present, consisting of Messrs. Walter, Case, Velde, Kearney, and Wood.

Mr. TAVENER. Do you have knowledge of a Communist cell presently existing and operating in the Bethlehem Steel plant at Johnstown, Pa.?

Mr. CVETIC. I know a Communist cell operates there. Several of the party members with whom I met in Johnstown have so informed me. While I have never met with the cell as an organizer, various party members with whom I met in Johnstown have told me: "We have several members working in the Bethlehem plant." But I have no knowledge of how they function. I never personally met with such a cell.

Mr. TAVENER. When these various meetings were called which you attended in Johnstown and Cambria County, will you tell us who was instrumental in making the calls for the meetings?

Mr. CVETIC. I was always instructed by the district organizer to go to Johnstown, but when I got there it was either Mr. Hardin or Mr. Matelesko who would meet me at the train or take me around in the Cambria County area. They were always responsible for calling the Communist Party meetings, and as far as I know they are still active, in Cambria County.

Mr. TAVENER. You have given us the initials of Mr. Hardin. Did you give us the first name of the other individual you mentioned?

Mr. CVETIC. John Matelesko.

Mr. TAVENER. Will you spell it again, please?

Mr. CVETIC. It is spelled three ways, M-a-t-e-l-e-s-k-o, or M-a-t-l-e-s-k-a, and he also uses the name M-a-t-l-e-s. As for Hardin, the only way I ever knew him was by the initials, R. J. Hardin.

Mr. TAVENER. Do you recall that a picnic was sponsored by the American Slav Congress in the summer of 1949 in Cambria County, at which you were present?

Mr. CVETIC. I wasn't present at the picnic, but I recall the picnic because I was to be a speaker there.

Mr. TAVENER. You were to be a speaker there?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes.

Mr. TAVENER. What occurred at this picnic?

Mr. CVETIC. This picnic was organized for the purpose of raising funds for the defense of George Pirinsky, P-i-r-i-n-s-k-y, national secretary of the American Slav Congress, who at that time was being held for deportation by the immigration authorities. I was to be a speaker there and was delayed because I couldn't make connections at a small town—I don't remember the name of the town—and in my absence Jim Dolsen, a Communist Party organizer, addressed the picnic and was able to raise over \$100 for the defense of George Pirinsky. I know that because Jim Dolsen turned the money over to me and I mailed it to the national office.

Mr. TAVENER. What was the strength of the Communist Party in Cambria County when you were in attendance at meetings there?

Mr. CVETIC. From the meetings I have attended—and I am taking into account where I led meetings in the coal-mining districts and didn't even know the names of the members, and picnics I attended where I didn't know the names of all members—I would say that the present strength of the Communist Party in Cambria County is 35 to 40 members.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mean at the present time?

Mr. CVETIC. At the present time.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was it during the time you were in attendance at these meetings?

Mr. CVETIC. While attending meetings I learned this, that at one time the strength of the Communist Party in and around Cambria County was around 200 members, and it has fallen off in recent years. When we talk about figures I like to warn people to be very wary of figures. While I say there are only 35 members there, it must be remembered that with 8 party members, the party was able to take over a union of 2,800 members at Crucible Steel in Pittsburgh.

Mr. CASE. What do you mean by "taking over"? Selecting its officers?

Mr. CVETIC. We were able to elect the president, the secretary, and several stewards in the shop, party members. The president of the union was a Communist; the secretary was a Communist; and we were able to elect several of our members shop stewards, all in about 2 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have stated you were directed to attend these meetings for the purpose of carrying the party line to the Communist membership in Cambria County. Will you explain that a little further, please?

Mr. CVETIC. At those meetings my job was to bring the new party line of the Communist Party into this cell. When there is a party line change brought down to the district office it has to be brought out to the members in the field. Part of my job was to take the new party line out in that particular county, and they, in turn, were to take it to the members with whom they met.

I was asked about how the members functioned in the coal fields. The principal purpose of the party members was to take the party line to the fields and do everything they could to create confusion and misunderstanding among the workers, and wherever possible, to get Communist Party members elected to office in the local unions.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did the Communist Party members in Pittsburgh consider their work in Cambria County important?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. Since Cambria County is an industrial area, steel and coal being the predominant industries, they considered it of sufficient importance to have a full-time paid party organizer up there at one time. In recent years they have been sending organizers like myself and Jim Dolsen up there, and I was not a paid organizer.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are the Communist Party cells you previously mentioned, in the Bethlehem Steel plant at Johnstown, Pa., and the local unions of the United Mine Workers in Cambria County, in existence today as functioning organizations?

Mr. CVETIC. Yes. As late as 4 months ago Steve Nelson asked me to go to Johnstown to meet with party members, but at the same time Bill Albertson had arranged with one of the other members to go to

Johnstown, so I was excused. The Communist Party still is interested in Cambria County, and will continue their interest, I am quite sure. In my opinion, I would say this: They will continue to function until the citizens of Cambria County recognize the Communist menace for its real aim, and that is to use whatever efforts they can to overthrow the Government of the United States.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have no further questions, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. WOOD. Mr. Walter?

Mr. WALTER. No questions.

Mr. WOOD. Mr. Case?

Mr. CASE. No questions.

Mr. WOOD. Mr. Velde?

Mr. VELDE. No questions.

Mr. WOOD. General Kearney.

Mr. KEARNEY. Mr. Cvetic, you have been on the stand now several days. Does this complete your testimony? Have you anything else to testify to regarding Communist activities?

Mr. CVETIC. Mr. Kearney, I can't say yes or no to that. Any time this committee would like to query me on any phase, I will be available.

Mr. WOOD. That will be all.

(Whereupon the hearing was adjourned.)

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